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Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-92-121
Tuesday
23 June 1992

Daily Report
East Asia

FBIS-EAS-92-121

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Ministerial Conference on Cambodia Held 22 Jun

OW2206052892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0446 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk called Monday for aid from the international community to revive Cambodia, which he likened to "a terminally ill person, near death."

Sihanouk, head of the Supreme National Council (SNC), the reconciliation body comprised of the four warring Cambodian factions, made the plea at an international meeting on the rebuilding of Cambodia.

Representatives from 33 nations, 13 international organizations, and the leaders of the four Cambodian factions attended the ministerial conference on rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia.

Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said that Japan will back United Nations efforts to achieve peace in Cambodia and will also help it rehabilitate and rebuild itself from devastation suffered in 13 years of war.

Miyazawa implicitly criticized the Khmer Rouge's refusal to disarm its troops, saying, "we cannot but express our serious concern over the difficulties that UNTAC (U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia) is recently encountering in the implementation of second phase of the cease-fire.

"I strongly appeal to all Cambodian parties to cooperate fully with UNTAC," he said.

Meanwhile, Yasushi Akashi, chief of UNTAC, slammed the Khmer Rouge, telling the conference its refusal to honor its obligations under last October's U.N.-arranged Paris peace accord "is a threat to all U.N. operations in Cambodia, including rehabilitation and reconstruction."

Among the participants was Khieu Samphan, leader of the Khmer Rouge, which has refused to join the other factions in sending its troops into U.N.-supervised cantonments for disarmament and demobilization.

After fervent behind-the scenes diplomatic efforts by several influential parties, including host country Japan, Khieu Samphan reversed his earlier decision to boycott the conference.

The Khmer Rouge maintains that international aid to Cambodia serves to mainly to prop up and consolidate the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh.

Sihanouk said that while the international community is making noble and determined efforts to "rescue" Cambodia and "assure convalescence toward full recovery," the recovery process will be slow due to the severity of the country's situation.

"It is impossible for us Cambodians at this time to realize any actual national reconciliation and to assure in full the peace process in Cambodia," he said.

Akashi pulled no punches in criticizing the Khmer Rouge in all but name, telling the conference that the 40-nation, 16,000-troop U.N. peacekeeping contingency under his command faces "political problems due to the noncooperation of one faction."

He said that he is nevertheless "determined to implement the Paris agreement."

"That party has refused to allow UNTAC troops access to the zones under its control or otherwise to cooperate with UNTAC's efforts to implement the peace process," Akashi said.

"In short, that party is in clear violation of the (Paris) agreement, which it signed itself and which has the full support of the international community, including the U.N. Security Council," he said.

Akashi indicated that the UNTAC is not considering changing its role from that of a peacekeeper to "peace-enforcer," as has been suggested by some observers.

"We have heard that some people think that the United Nations is weak, that it is not 'tough.' But the one thing Cambodia does not need is more soldiers with more weapons coming to fight and kill more people," he said.

Addressing what UNTAC considers unsubstantiated claims by the Khmer Rouge that large numbers of Vietnamese forces remain in Cambodia, Akashi reiterated that UNTAC will fulfill its task under the Paris accord to verify "the withdrawal and nonreturn of all foreign forces from Cambodia."

The Khmer Rouge, which was ousted from power by invading Vietnamese forces in 1978, says UNTAC has been shirking its duties under the accord in that regard.

"I know that many Cambodians fear neighboring countries," Akashi said, but added that the surest safeguard against aggression is "to build a free, democratic, stable, neutral, and prosperous Cambodia.'

Akashi also addressed Khieu Samphan's main argument for initially refusing to attend the conference, its opposition to some 110 million dollars of the almost 600 million dollars in rehabilitation aid called for by the U.N. being earmarked for public sector financing.

The U.N. Development Program (UNDP), which is jointly chairing the Tokyo conference with Japan, announced Saturday it would earmark some 57 million dollars toward the resources called for in the appeal, including 36 million dollars in newly committed assistance.

The conference represents Japan's largest initiative to date in the Cambodian peace process and follows last week's passage of legislation facilitating the Japanese military's participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations in Cambodia.

Miyazawa told the participants that the enactment of the legislation is "epoch-making in the history of Japan's international cooperation."

"We will hereafter strive to dispatch our personnel to untac," he said.

Sources said the Japan will manage the international committee on reconstruction of Cambodia, which is to be established at the end of the conference to deal with Cambodia's needs after planned elections are held.

Sihanouk's Conference Speech Reported

OW2206033092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0316 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—The following are major points extracted from a speech by Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk at the Cambodia aid conference in Tokyo on Monday [22 Jun]:

Japan has played an extremely important role in the process which is bringing peace to Cambodia. We also welcome with equal satisfaction the dispatch to our country of the Japanese contingents who will contribute to consolidating peace in Cambodia and in protecting the Cambodian people under UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

It is impossible for us Cambodians at this time to realize any actual national reconciliation and to ensure in full the peace process in Cambodia.

I wish to call your attention to certain "priorities above priorities."

First of all, I plead with you that the primary focus be set on the poorest elements of Cambodian society—in the cities, in Phnom Penh in particular, as well as in the countryside.

Those who suffer a great deal are the virtuous peasants who lead their lives with admirable and immutable moral values. They do not deserve their grim fate. In many areas of Cambodia, during the dry season, their villages experience extreme shortages of water, bereft even of drinking water for themselves and their thirsty farm animals.

Besides the process of removing the mines, we must urgently come up with an expedient way of providing water for them, utilizing hand drills to dig wells in sufficient quantities, as well as utilizing bulldozers and other machines to dig water reservoirs in large numbers and to build as many dams as possible.

Secondly, those involved in agriculture constitute more than 80 percent of Cambodia's population.

The rescue and rehabilitation of Cambodia is totally dependent on placing priority on our agricultural rehabilitation.

Third, we face a multitude of problems: the perilous integration into civilian life of tens of thousands of demobilized soldiers, the repatriation of hundreds of thousands of refugees, unmanageable unemployment, social injustice, the widening gulf between rich and poor, and the explosive danger of coping with the deprived, disadvantaged and idle population compounded with the fact that four or five million mines still exist on Cambodian soil.

One must therefore, in my view, give absolute priority to providing such diversified aid to the majority of the population.

Last but not least we must not ignore the ecological disequilibrium which has become more and more serious in Cambodia and to which an urgent, serious, methodical solution must be found.

The rapid and extensive destruction of our forests, in all zones, under the control of various armed factions, must be of immediate concern since the annual exploitation of our forests is five times that allowed even by the most extreme limits set by scientific considerations of vegetation survival.

The repair and reinstatement of the infrastructure (roads, bridges, railways, ports, and airports) to their former state is another necessary condition for the socioeconomic restoration of Cambodia and its people.

However, it is true that... the prospects for peace have somewhat deteriorated in recent weeks.

Peace and stability in Cambodia still exist in more than 80 percent of our national territory.

Halting the aid process to the "little people" of Cambodia and the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the peaceful Cambodian parties is tantamount to condemning an entire nation to atone indefinitely for the mistakes committed by others. If this happens we are fated to remain one of the world's most miserable and martyred nations.

Cambodians who respect the Paris accords on Cambodia must be justly rewarded, that is to say, rehabilitated without delay.

UNTAC Head Akashi's Remarks Cited

OW2206051392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0458 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—The following are the major points from a speech by Yasushi Akashi, head of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia, at the Cambodia aid conference in Tokyo on Monday:

The disarming and demobilization of the 200,000 armed men in Cambodia is one of the most crucial steps in the complex and difficult peace process now being carried out by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). For that purpose, UNTAC has assembled a force of nearly 16,000 troops from 40 countries to perform the tasks required.

Military matters represent, however, only a part of the work UNTAC is doing in Cambodia. Our ultimate goal is to administer free and fair elections throughout Cambodia by May next year in order to establish a constituent assembly which will ultimately create a democratically elected government.

One of the essential underpinnings of any electoral system is an understanding of and respect for human rights.

One of the many tragic human problems that UNTAC must solve involves the repatriation of more than 350,000 refugees, mostly from camps on the Thai border. Repatriation began last March and has proceeded by road, air and train ever since. More than 30,000 refugees have now returned in dignity to their homeland.

One of the most ambitious components of UNTAC is civil administration, which will place international officials in the administrative structures of each of the four parties to help ensure the creation and maintenance of a neutral political environment conducive to the holding of free and fair elections.

These officials will soon begin to exercise direct control over the five spheres of administration stipulated in the Paris agreements.

I have left until last the rehabilitation component, which is perhaps of greatest concern to those assembled in Tokyo. During his visit to Cambodia in April, the United Nations secretary general launched a consolidated appeal to the international community for resources to meet Cambodia's immediate needs, for rehabilitating its infrastructure, and for maintaining essential public services during the transition period. Program costs covered by the appeal were estimated at 595 million dollars, including the costs of the repatriation of refugees.

At the same time, the rehabilitation sector has been affected by basic political problems. An important segment of the program would be devoted to budget subsidies and balance of payments support, in recognition of the imperative need to stem present inflationary pressures and to prevent the civil service, in particular schoolteachers and health workers, from disintegrating.

I have offered every assurance that such budget subsidies will be administered under the rigorous control and supervision of UNTAC. One party has, nevertheless, opposed this category of assistance on the grounds that it would be given to, and benefit, the State of Cambodia. That party has taken this objection to the point of refusing to consider other projects with which they are in agreement, pending the resolution of the basic principle involved.

I have carefully examined this issue. It is my view that program assistance of this type can be dispensed equitably among the parties, under UNTAC with satisfactory controls and with full respect for the need to maintain a neutral political environment. We must also keep in perspective the requirements of an incoming administration following next year's elections. The new government would not be served by the economic disruption that would follow in the wake of hyperinflation and a situation where the civil service is in a state of collapse.

Implementing the Paris agreement and the secretary general's plan containing UNTAC's mandate is going to be difficult enough as it is, given the shortage of funds and personnel we face and the widespread degradation of the infrastructure in Cambodia after 20 years of conflict. But the refusal of one party to honor the obligations of the agreement it signed last October in Paris is a threat to all United Nations operations in Cambodia, including rehabilitation and reconstruction.

The problems of Cambodia must ultimately be solved by Cambodians themselves in a true spirit of self-determination. But the United Nations, through UNTAC, is there to help them get over the difficult first step. I wish to renew my total commitment and that of UNTAC in this regard. We will prove by daily example that a better and more peaceful life can be built for all Cambodians. This conference will serve to also show that the international community is ready to assist Cambodians to make sure that peace and prosperity are awaiting them at the end of their long and unspeakable sorrow and travail.

Miyazawa's Conference Speech Reported

OW2206024692 Tokyo KYODO in English 0225 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—The following are the major points from Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa's speech at the Cambodia aid conference in Tokyo on Monday.

The signing of the Paris peace accord on October 23 last year was a result of mutual accommodations among the parties concerned after painstaking negotiations.

The peace accord is also a precious fruit borne in the process of the search for a new international order in the post-Cold War era.

The peace accord is not the terminal point but the starting point; it can prove successful only through the unremitting efforts of all the Cambodian people and the countries and international organizations concerned.

Only when a stable peace is restored in Indochina, and open and diverse interactions with ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and other members of the international community infuse the region, will true peace and lasting prosperity obtain in Southeast Asia.

Such stability and peace in Indochina requires durable peace in Cambodia, which, in turn, cannot be secured without economic and social stability.

The peace process in Cambodia has three pillars. The first is the preparation for, and the holding of, free and fair elections. This requires steady progress in the repatriation and resettlement of refugees and displaced persons.

The second pillar is the implementation of the cease-fire process, which includes the demobilization of military forces.

With respect to these two pillars, it is important for this conference to reaffirm the unflinching support for the activities of UNTAC (United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia), so that the peace accord may be fully implemented.

In this connection, we cannot but express our serious concern over the difficulties that UNTAC is recently encountering in the implementation of the second phase of the ceasefire. I strongly appeal to all Cambodian parties to cooperate fully with UNTAC.

The third pillar is the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia, which is the main theme of this conference.

For Cambodia to be fully rehabilitated and reconstructed, and its economic and social stability realized, self-help efforts by the Cambodians have to be buttressed by appropriate external assistance, both technical and financial.

It is important for us to pledge our positive commitments to the rehabilitation of Cambodia.

It is also important for us to agree on the establishment of an international mechanism to coordinate assistance to the reconstruction of Cambodia. Japan on its part is determined to extend the necessary cooperation to the important undertaking of rehabilitation and reconstruction in order to support the peace process.

My government enacted the law concerning cooperation for U.N. peacekeeping operations and other operations last week. This law enables us to contribute to U.N. peacekeeping operations in terms of the provision of personnel.

We will hereafter strive to dispatch our personnel to UNTAC, and will endeavor to make due contribution to the international community.

I should like to conclude my statement by expressing my sincere hope that this conference will help serve the full and smooth implementation of the Paris peace agreements, and will substantially contribute to the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia.

Further on Miyazawa Remarks

OW2206012092 Tokyo KYODO in English 0109 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday that Japan will back U.N. efforts to achieve peace in Cambodia and will also help it rehabilitate and rebuild itself from devastation suffered in 13 years of war.

Miyazawa, speaking at a major international conference on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia, said, "Japan for its part is determined to extend necessary cooperation to the important undertaking of rehabilitation and reconstruction in order to support the peace process."

Representatives of 32 countries and 12 international organizations attended the one-day ministerial-level conference, which followed a working-level preparatory session Saturday.

The heads of all four warring Cambodian factions attended.

Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan took part in the session, reversing an earlier decision to boycott the Tokyo conference. [passage omitted]

Japan and the U.N. Development Program (UNDP) are hosting the Tokyo conference, which is aimed at giving an impetus to the stalled peace process in Cambodia and to pledge funds and coordinate international efforts to rebuild the war-ravaged country.

The conference comes shortly after the passage of legislation by the Japanese Diet on June 15 that facilitates the participation of Japan's Self-Defense Forces personnel in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Among those present at the conference were Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, UNTAC head Yasushi Akashi, and UNDP Administrator William Draper.

The conference is expected to yield some 500 million dollars to 600 million dollars in assistance for the period of Cambodia's rehabilitation, or until the scheduled elections next spring.

The conference will also set up an International Committee on the Reconstruction of Cambodia (ICORC) to coordinate assistance after the elections.

UN Program Administrator's Speech Cited

OW2206040892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0330 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—The following are the major points from U.N. Development Program (UNDP) administrator William Draper's speech at the Cambodia aid conference in Tokyo on Monday.

Cambodia is a critical test for the post-Cold War world, a world in which the United Nations is destined to play a pivotal role. The case of Cambodia is especially poignant, not only because of the immense human suffering that has already taken place there, but because Cambodia was the unwitting victim of superpower confrontation.

In early 1990, the secretary general asked the United Nations Development Program to field the first mission to assess Cambodia's infrastructure needs in a comprehensive way. This was followed by several fact-finding missions by UNDP. This immediate and short-term needs that were identified were the basis of the secretary general's appeal for 595 million dollars in assistance to Cambodia.

There are, I believe, five basic objectives to be pursued during this transition period, up until the time that an elected government takes office.

First is the harmonious resettlement of refugees, displaced persons, and demobilized soldiers.

Second, urgent humanitarian needs, particularly those of women and children, must be addressed.

The third objective is the restoration of basic infrastructure, namely roads, railroads, power plants and utilities, to the point at which they once functioned.

Fourth is the rebuilding of Cambodian institutions and the training of Cambodian citizens so that they can be the architects and managers, as well as the beneficiaries, of their nation's reconstruction.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, all possible voters must be registered and a free and fair election ensured. I'm pleased to say that 400 United Nations volunteers will be on hand to assist in this critical and politically sensitive process. This is the largest contingent of U.N. volunteers ever assembled for a single purpose.

In conclusion, I would like to remind you that the reconstruction of Cambodia is one of the largest and most complex development challenges ever faced by the international community. It is an international effort that can work, and one that must work, both for the future of Cambodia and the prospects for our world. Today, we must send a clear message that we fully support Cambodia's struggle to rebuild, and that we strongly support the operations of UNTAC (U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia).

From our side, I am pleased to announce that UNDP will provide 54 million dollars for activities identified in the secretary general's appeal. This, together with 3 million dollars from the U.N. Capital Development Fund, which UNDP administers, comprises nearly 10 percent of the total funds sought.

Cambodian Aid Conference Adopts Two Declarations

OW2206103692 Tokyo KYODO in English 1006 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—An international ministerial conference on rehabilitation of Cambodia Monday adopted two declarations stressing the importance of "full and timely" implementation of the Paris peace agreements.

Representatives from 33 nations and 13 international organizations adopted the Tokyo declarations at a session in a Tokyo hotel.

The Tokyo Declaration on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia said the assistance efforts for successfully rebuilding the war-torn nation is "highly dependent on strict adherence" to the agreements reached at the Paris conference on October 23, 1991.

Acknowledging that Cambodia suffers from the devastaion of a 20-year-long war, the declaration noted that external assistance both technical and financial is "indispensable" to undertake full-scale rehabilitation and reconstruction "which would bring about economic and social stability in Cambodia."

It said that the authority representing Cambodia regarding international assistance during the transitional period is the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC).

The delegates also agreed to establish a consultative body, the "International Committee on Reconstruction of Cambodia (ICORC)," which will be an international mechanism for coordinating the medium- and long-term assistance for the reconstruction of Cambodia.

The Tokyo Declaration on Cambodia Peace Process called on the Cambodian parties to "renew their commitment" to the cease-fire and related measures under the accord.

It also called on all the Cambodian parties concerned to "refrain from hostilities and to resolve, in good faith and in a spirit of cooperation, any disputes through peaceful means."

The declaration noted the need for compliance by all signatories of the Paris accord to allow the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to "exercise, in consultation with the SNC, all the powers with which it is mandated by the Paris accord."

It expressed serious concern over the difficulties UNTAC is facing in implementing the agreement, particularly citing "the refusal of one party" to allow the necessary deployment of UNTAC before and since the beginning of the second phase of the cease-fire on June 13.

"We call upon that party to cooperate with UNTAC in the full and timely implementation of the second phase of the cease-fire, and to meet promptly its obligations under the (Paris) agreements," the declaration said.

The Khmer Rouge, militarily the strongest among the four warring factions, has refused to disarm its troops.

Pointing out the need for UNTAC to ensure a "neutral political environment," the declaration urged U.N. secretary general to "recruit, and deploy in Cambodia, all essential U.N. civil administration personnel as soon as possible."

The participants of the meeting also reaffirmed in the declaration the vital importance of holding "free and fair" elections in the spring of 1993 as scheduled, and the repatriation and resettlement of Cambodian refugees and displaced persons in this regard.

Declaration on Rehabilitation

OW2206112992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1019 GMT 22 Jun 92

["Text" of the Tokyo Declaration on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia, issued in Tokyo on 22 June]

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—**Tokyo Declaration: Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia**

22 June 1992

We, the representatives of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Vietnam, the European Community, United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), World Food Program (WFP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Labor Organization (ILO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF), and Asian Development Bank (ADB),

Meeting at the Ministerial Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia (MCRRC) on 20 and 22 June 1992, hosted by the Government of Japan and co-chaired by the host and UNDP,

Adopted the following declaration:

(Socio-Economic Situation in Cambodia)

1. We recognize that Cambodia suffers from the devastation of a 20-year-long war, which resulted in the destruction of its basic infrastructure, deterioration of living standards, lack of human resources and a serious fiscal deficit. In order to undertake full-scale rehabilitation and reconstruction which would bring about economic and social stability in Cambodia, external assistance both technical and financial is indispensable.

(Guidelines for Assistance in Cambodia)

2. We consider that the following points must be taken note of in proceeding to assist in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia:

(a) Successful implementation of the rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance effort for Cambodia as a whole is highly dependent on strict adherence to the agreements reached at the Paris conference on 23 October 1991.

(b) The main responsibility for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia rests with the Cambodian people, and international assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction should be supportive of the self-help efforts of the Cambodian people themselves.

(c) Assistance for rehabilitation and reconstruction should be made available impartially with full regard for Cambodia's sovereignty, and benefit all regions of Cambodia, and reach all levels of society and the most needy sectors of the population.

(d) During the transitional period as referred to in the agreements, in addition to emergency humanitarian assistance—including demining—and rehabilitation assistance with quick impact, ground work for longer-term assistance which addresses priority needs should be initiated.

(e) Contributors should take into consideration the priorities identified in paragraph 10 of the Paris Declaration on the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia (food security, health, housing, training, education, the transport network and the restoration of Cambodia's existing basic infrastructure and public utilities) and developed in the report entitled "Cambodia, Socio- Economic Situation and Immediate Needs," which was jointly prepared by UNDP, World Bank, IMF, and ADB and based on the results of special missions carried out by these four organizations and other agencies and the consolidated appeal issued on 20 April 1992 by the U.N. secretary general concerning the rehabilitation of Cambodia.

(f) In the implementation of assistance programs, due regard should be paid to possible adverse effects on the environment, due consideration should also be given to measures which will improve the social and cultural conditions of the Cambodian people, in particular those of disadvantaged groups, and the role of women.

(Achievement To Date)

3. (a) We welcome the substantial and generous sums pledged during the MCRRC for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia. We take note of the fact that the April 1992 U.N. secretary general's consolidated appeal for Cambodia's needs outlined the most urgent needs to be met during the rehabilitation period.

The pledges made at the MCRRC including ongoing commitments amount to 880 million U.S. dollars including medium-term needs. This is a clear manifestation of the determination and willingness of the international community to assist in the rehabilitation of Cambodia.

We express our resolve to implement without delay the commitments already made and sincerely hope that the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia will proceed in a timely and satisfactory manner.

(b) We appreciate highly the role of NGOs [nongovernmental organizations] which have been extensively engaged in activities to meet the humanitarian needs in Cambodia. We express our strong hope that the experience and expertise of NGOs will continue to be utilized in the process of rehabilitation and reconstruction.

(International Support Mechanism)

4. During the transitional period, the authority representing Cambodia regarding international assistance is the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC) in accordance with the terms of the Paris agreements. We welcome the statement by UNTAC regarding the procedure for the clearance of rehabilitation projects, as expressed at the SNC meeting of 10 June 1992, which also stressed the need to maintain the closest dialogue with all the Cambodian parties in helping to coordinate all assistance.

We encourage the countries and organizations concerned to provide the necessary information and to consult with the UNTAC director for rehabilitation in Phnom Penh so that during the transitional period bilateral and international organizations' assistance will be implemented effectively and without duplication. The director will monitor such assistance in order to advise contributors on the overall progress of the rehabilitation program.

5. We agree to establish a consultative body to be called the "International Committee on Reconstruction of Cambodia" (ICORC) which will be an international mechanism for coordinating, in consultation with the Government of Cambodia when formed after free and fair elections, the medium and long-term assistance for the reconstruction of Cambodia, and of which the framework is described in the annex to this declaration. ICORC will be open to countries and international organizations contributing to the medium and long-term reconstruction of Cambodia, bilaterally, multilaterally, or through tripartite or other arrangements. It will be chaired by Japan, and in principle will be convened annually, with the venue normally alternating between Tokyo and Paris. The first meeting of ICORC will be convened by the chair country at an appropriate time prior to the holding of elections.

6. We welcome the recent initiative taken by the international financial community towards supporting the normalization of Cambodia's relations with international financial institutions.

We also welcome the announcement made by the representative of Cambodia at the conference to take necessary steps to facilitate the normalization of its relationships with the international financial institutions.

(Issues for the Development of Cambodia's Economy in the Future)

7. International financial institutions stressed the importance of market based reforms in Cambodia to increasing output in major sectors of the economy, which has yet to regain the levels of nearly of a quarter of a century ago. In Cambodia, there remain fundamental institutional and policy-related constraints to further economic progress which must be addressed promptly. We stress our resolve and willingness to extend appropriate assistance, including technical assistance, to Cambodia during the rehabilitation period as well as the reconstruction phase through appropriate approaches that ensure and strengthen Cambodia's own capacity to sustain its development.

8. We are hopeful that with the assistance now envisaged for the rehabilitation period as well as the reconstruction phase, Cambodia can expand and diversify its external trade and investment relationships, so that it will be integrated into the dynamic economic development of the Asia-Pacific region, and of the world.

Annex to Rehabilitation Declaration

OW2206104592 Tokyo KYODO in English 1022 GMT 22 Jun 92

["Text" of Annex to the Tokyo Declaration on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia, issued in Tokyo on 22 June]

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—**Annex: Framework of ICORC [International Committee on Reconstruction of Cambodia]**

(1) ICORC will be a long-term consultative body which will provide a forum through which contributors can exchange views and information with the Cambodian authorities, with the objective of better coordinating international assistance for the reconstruction of Cambodia.

(2) ICORC is expected to enable the Government of Cambodia, to be formed after free and fair elections, to put its views before the contributors and to facilitate its planning with advance notice of aid levels and aid priorities to be provided by the contributors. It is also expected to enable the contributors to consult with and advise the Cambodian authorities on development requirements, which would be helpful for the contributors in setting their own aid levels and priorities for the benefit of Cambodia.

(3) An important role of ICORC will be to provide an occasion for the coordination of assistance to Cambodia to develop an institutional economic and social planning and aid management capacity necessary for the successful implementation of the reconstruction program.

(4) The membership of ICORC will be open to all countries and international organizations contributing to the long-term reconstruction of Cambodia.

(5) After its formation, the Government of Cambodia will be represented at all meetings of ICORC.

(6) During the transitional period, Cambodia will be represented by a delegation representing the Supreme National Council of Cambodia. The special representative of the United Nations secretary general for Cambodia will also be represented.

(7) Representatives of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) active in Cambodia, and nominated by the NGO Coordination Committee for Cambodia, will be welcome to present their views as observers at meetings of ICORC.

(8) Japan will convene and chair the meetings of ICORC, which will be conducted annually, unless the convener, in consultation with participating countries and international organizations, agrees otherwise.

(9) During the transitional period, UNDP [UN Development Program] in cooperation with UNTAC and other relevant international agencies will provide technical and secretariat support to ICORC. This role will subsequently be assumed by an international organization or organizations invited to do so by the Government of Cambodia formed after free and fair elections.

(10) The venue for ICORC meetings will normally alternate between Tokyo and Paris. The convener, in consultation with participating countries and international organizations, may determine to convene meetings in other venues, such as Phnom Penh.

Declaration on Peace Process

OW2206102592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0947 GMT 22 Jun 92

["Full text" of Tokyo Declaration on Cambodia issued at the Ministerial Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction in Cambodia in Tokyo on 22 June]

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO— We, the representatives of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Vietnam and the European Community, and the special representative of the secretary general of the United Nations for Cambodia,

Meeting at the Ministerial Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia (MCRRC) on 20 and 22 June 1992, hosted by the Government of Japan and co-chaired by the host and UNDP,

Adopted the following declaration:

1. We exchanged views on and assessed the status of implementation of the Paris agreements ("the agreements").

We note that despite all the difficulties involved, substantial progress has been made in the implementation of the agreements. In this regard, we pay high tribute to the eminent role played by His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk as the president of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC), and commend the efforts of Mr. Yasushi Akashi, the special representative of the secretary general of the United Nations for Cambodia and the head of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) and his staff.

2. We stress the imperative need for the Cambodian parties to renew their commitment to the cease-fire and related measures under the agreements, and call upon all Cambodian parties concerned to refrain from hostilities and to resolve, in good faith and in a spirit of cooperation, any disputes through peaceful means.

3. We welcome the accession of the SNC, signed by all its members, to the international covenants on civil and political rights and on economic, social and cultural rights, and reaffirm the importance of safeguarding respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Cambodia.

4. (A) We reaffirm the vital importance of holding free and fair elections in the spring of 1993 as scheduled, and welcome the progress UNTAC, in cooperation with the SNC, is making in preparing a new electoral law and taking other steps necessary for the holding of free and fair elections.

(B) We stress the importance of the repatriation and resettlement of Cambodian refugees and displaced persons, particularly in relation to the elections set for the next spring. In this connection, we note with appreciation the efforts of UNHCR as lead agency in close coordination with other international organizations, the countries concerned, and relevant NGOs [nongovernmental organizations] for the repatriation and resettlement of Cambodian refugees and displaced persons. We recognize the extremely difficult circumstances under which repatriation and resettlement are being conducted, and pledge our continued support for such efforts.

5. (A) Mindful of the statement of the president of the Security Council of the United Nations of 12 June 1992, we stress the importance of the full and timely implementation of the agreements and the need for compliance by all the signatories with the provisions of the agreements to allow UNTAC to exercise, in consultation with the SNC, all the powers with which it is mandated by the agreements, in accordance with the mechanisms and time schedule set therein.

(B) We welcome the commencement of the second phase of the cease- fire on June 13. We, however, express our serious concern over the difficulties UNTAC is encountering in the implementation of the agreements, in particular over the refusal of one party to allow the necessary deployment of UNTAC prior to and since the commencement of the second phase of the cease-fire in the areas under its control. We call upon that party to cooperate with UNTAC in the full and timely implementation of the second phase of the cease-fire, and to meet promptly its obligations under the agreements.

(C) We emphasize the need for the secretary general of the United Nations to accelerate the deployment of the full UNTAC peacekeeping forces to Cambodia and within the country.

6. We stress the need for UNTAC to exercise its mandate under Articles 6 and 7 of the agreement on a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian conflict, and under sections A and B, among others, of Annex 1 to that agreement to ensure a neutral political environment.

To this end, we urge the secretary general of the United Nations to recruit, and deploy in Cambodia, all essential United Nations civil administration personnel as soon as possible.

7. We confirm that we will render, in accordance with the agreements, all necessary support and cooperation so that UNTAC may fulfill its mandate and that the second phase may proceed as scheduled. In this respect, we stress the importance of timely financial contributions and the provision of personnel.

8. We call upon the Security Council of the United Nations, the secretary general of the United Nations and the two co-chairmen of the Paris conference to continue to monitor carefully the implementation of the agreements, as provided by the agreements.

9. Through this declaration, we intend to give a clear signal that there is full international support for the peace process and to reaffirm the importance we attach to its effective and expeditious implementation.

Donors Pledge US$880 Million in Aid to Cambodia

OW2206095992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0928 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—Topped by Japan, international donors pledged at a Tokyo conference Monday 880 million dollars to rebuild war-ravaged Cambodia, unexpectedly exceeding a United Nations appeal, Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said.

Meanwhile, in a political declaration issued at the end of the one-day conference, the 33 nations and 13 international bodies made a concerted call on the Khmer Rouge guerrilla group to disarm in line with last October's Paris peace agreement and start cooperating in full with UN peacekeeping forces.

Officials said before the final tally was completed, Japan led the list of countries pledging funds for Cambodia's rehabilitation through 1993, with a "target contribution" of 150 to 200 million dollars, including 82-132 million dollars in previously unpledged money.

The U.S. was in second place with a pledge of 135 million dollars, while the UN Development Program, which cohosted the conference with Japan, said it would earmark 57 million dollars toward an appeal issued by UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali in mid-April.

A Japanese Foreign Ministry official said there was originally widespread pessimism on whether the appeal could be met, "but when the envelopes started coming in we were surprised to learn otherwise."

Another official called it "exceptional" that the amount of the appeal had been topped by donors.

The conference issued two "Tokyo Declarations"—an economic one concerned with Cambodia's rehabilitation and reconstruction and a political one focused on the Cambodian peace process.

The political statement took a hard-line stance toward the intransigence of the Khmer Rouge, by far the strongest of the three factions that fought for over 13 years against the Vietnamese- installed government in Phnom Penh.

The statement expressed "serious concern" over the Khmer Rouge's refusal to allow the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to deploy in areas under its control, though the group was referred to as "one party" rather than directly by name.

It also called upon the Khmer Rouge "to cooperate with UNTAC in the full and timely implementation of the second phase of the cease-fire," namely the grouping of its troops along with those of the other factions in UN-supervised cantonments for eventual disarmament and demobilization.

UNTAC Chief Yasushi Akashi strongly rebuked the Khmer Rouge in a speech earlier in the day to the conference, in which titular Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan reluctantly participated, saying its refusal to abide by its Paris commitments "is a threat to all UN operations in Cambodia, including rehabilitation and reconstruction."

The political declaration also called for the deployment of the UNTAC peacekeeping forces to Cambodia to be accelerated to reach a full strength of 22,000 troops and other personnel.

It urged that "to ensure a neutral political environment" all essential UN civil administration personnel be sent to Cambodia as soon as possible to take control of Cambodia's foreign affairs, defense, finance, public security, and information ministries as mandated by the peace agreement.

The Khmer Rouge has vigorously complained the action is yet to be carried out and alleges UNTAC is sacrificing its neutrality by supporting the Phnom Penh government's administration of public affairs.

It has also complained that the Supreme National Council (SNC), a government-guerrilla reconciliation body, is not able to exercise any authority and power is unfairly monopolized by UNTAC and the Phnom Penh government;

Japanese officials said the Khmer Rouge criticism was tackled delicately in the statement, which said UNTAC will exercise all the powers mandated to it by the Paris accord "in consultation with the SNC."

William Draper, head of the U.N. Development Program (UNDP), gave high marks to the outcome of the one-day international conference.

"This day will be etched in our mind as a landmark in Cambodia's path to its recovery from long years of conflict..." Draper said. "We can all be proud of having been part of this historic event."

He said the 880 million dollars exceeds the "very urgent needs" and "even meets the larger and more comprehensive needs."

"We witnessed a tremendous swell of enthusiasm manifested in the very generous contributions announced for rehabilitiaton in Cambodia in the next two years," he said, adding that no conference of this nature generated contributions "of the magnitude announced" in Monday's meeting.

Draper also said the conference "has now acknowledged and appreciated" Japan's political leadership as well as its role as a world economic leader and "implicitly welcomed this role."

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas also called the meeting a success, saying, "not only did we achieve an amount beyond what we thought was needed but we also got a concensus and clarity among ourselves on how to go about it in the rehabilitation stage as well as in the reconstruction stage."

Australia's Evans Notes Khmer Rouge 'Grievances'

OW2206105492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1037 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 22 KYODO—Australian Foreign Affairs Minister Gareth Evans said Monday that informal discussions at the Cambodian aid conference focused on the "legitimate grievances" of the Khmer Rouge.

Evans, a participant in the conference, said the main concerns of the Khmer Rouge, the largest opposition faction, are the equitable distribution of aid, the verification of Vietnamese forces in Cambodia, and the nature of civil administration in Phnom Penh.

He told a press briefing the conference is an opportunity for participants in the peace process—the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, as well as Indonesia, Japan, and Australia—to press the Cambodian parties to reach a compromise over their differences.

"It's a very fortuitously timed conference," said Evans, who has represented Australia's position on the Cambodian conflict at most international meetings over the past years.

He said Khmer Rouge representatives at the conference have told him they are concerned aid to Cambodia will flow mainly to the Phnom Penh-based, Hun Sen-led government of the State of Cambodia (SOC) that will use the aid for political purposes.

He said the Khmer Rouge are pushing for a greater role in the governing of the country for the Supreme National Council (SNC), the country's interim governing body of national reconciliation which comprises representatives of all factions.

"They (the Khmer Rouge) have been placing most emphasis on the need to, in effect, give the SNC the status of a government and to disband the SOC, but it is just inconceivable that anyone would be prepared to go down that track," Evans said.

"But there are ways in which you can give more recognized stature to the SNC and a more active role within this careful balance of authority under the settlement than has been the case in practice so far."

Evans said the Khmer Rouge also is insisting on a mechanism for the future verification of the presence of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia.

"This merges very quickly into anxiety not so much about Vietnamese forces as such but about Vietnamese civilians," he said.

"And that gets into a more general argument about the role that those civilians should have in the election process and the future of the country."

Indonesia Offers Cambodia Economic Aid

BK2206101392 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0920 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Jun 22 (OANA/ANTARA)—Indonesia has offered Cambodia a wide-range techno-economic cooperation, based on the framework of people-oriented strategy and in the spirit of South-South cooperation.

Indonesia is fully prepared and capable of engaging in a wide range of technical cooperation programmes with Cambodia, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas told the one-day Ministerial Conference on Rehabilitation and Reconstruction of Cambodia (MCRRC) opened here on Monday.

Some 32 countries attended the meeting as well as 12 international organisations and head and members of the Cambodian Supreme National Council (SNC). Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa was the first speaker in the meeting which was chaired by Koji Kakizawa, Japan's parliamentary vice-minister for foreign affairs.

For the specific reconstruction and rehabilitation need of Cambodia, it should be feasible for countries like Indonesia to design those forms of technical cooperation that would be relevant and useful to Cambodia's national development effort, Alatas said.

Indonesia is ready to share with Cambodia its experiences in its own development efforts and to extend technical assistance in such fields as food, security, population programmes, particularly family planning and human resources development, human settlement and community health programmes designed on the basis of propelling growth schemes, Alatas added.

Indonesia is also offered Cambodia food production assistance, with the emphasis on the development of agricultural extension services and integrated pesticide management, post-harvest operation and irrigation system rehabilitation.

Through tripartite arrangements, Indonesia would also be able to extend food aid and other material needs such as fertilizers, he said.

With regards to funding, Alatas said, Indonesia proposes two types of programmes: through tripartite arrangement and bilateral arrangement.

For the first type funding, another donor country or international organisation assumes responsibility of the financial component in the programmes, while for the second, Indonesia assumes the entire responsibility, including the financial part of the programme, he said.

Alatas also brought forward such offers to Cambodia as resettlement and low-cost housing programmes and fellowship programmes for Cambodian to participate in irrigation and drainage engineering and courses in oil and gas basic drilling operations.

The foreign minister, co-chairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, which led the four Cambodian warring factions to come to terms and signed a peace agreement on October 23, 1991, warned Cambodia against dependence on foreign assistance.

National self-reliance should be central to any development strategy, hence to Cambodian reconstruction efforts so as to avoid the risk of perpetual dependence on foreign assistance, Alatas said, adding that sustainability, equity and comprehensive as underlying principles in such development programmes.

While acknowledging some difficulties in the implementation of the U.N.-sponsored peace plan in Cambodia, he urged all parties not again to allow for more bloodhed to the suffering Cambodian people as peace itself now within grasp. [passage omitted]

Japan

U.S.-Japan Friction Clouds Toyota-GM Links

OW2306010192 Tokyo KYODO in English 2347 GMT 22 Jun 92

[KYODO editor's note: "This is the first of three articles on the world's second largest automaker Toyota Motor Corp. to mark the 10th anniversary of the merger of its manufacturing and sales divisions in July"]

[Text] Nagoya, June 23 KYODO—Mounting U.S. criticism of Japan's rapidly rising share of the American automobile market is clouding the "friendly" relationship between Toyota Motor Corp. and General Motors Corp. (GM).

Regarding the ongoing automobile trade dispute between the two countries, Toyota Chairman Eiji Toyoda said, "a certain amount of friction between the U.S. and Japan is unavoidable."

"Our GM pipeline will continue to be indispensable," he said.

In 1984, Toyota teamed with GM, the world's largest car manufacturer, to launch a joint passenger car manufacturing venture in California. The world's two leading automakers have been producing cars at new United Motor Manufacturing Inc. (NUMMI)

The venture is the pillar of Toyota's plan to cooperate with the U.S. automakers. Formation of the venture was part of Toyota's strategy to set up its own plants in the U.S.

It was also a way in which the automaker could establish a cooperative relationship with a U.S. automaker, by providing it with production and development expertise of compact cars, said Toyota Vice President Tatsuro Toyoda.

Following the creation of the venture, Toyota built its own plant in Kentucky and Canada, while GM put the development of its Saturn model on track, evidence that their joint effort helped to meet part of their objectives.

Toyota's sales, including exports, came to 4.12 million vehicles in the year ended in June 1991. Toyota's sales expanded by one million in the past decade since the formation of a merger between its manufacturing and sales divisions.

But at the same time, Toyota's rapid growth is aggravating trade friction between Japan and the U.S.

Japan now has over a 30 percent share of the U.S. automobile market, which is the world's largest market.

Japan's swelling share has spurred criticism of Japan's "keiretsu" or tight-knit business groupings in which certain automakers only do business with affiliated parts makers and marketing firms.

It has also prompted the U.S. to call for stepped-up purchases of U.S. auto parts.

U.S. President George Bush came to Japan in January largely to pressure Japan to increase purchases of U.S. cars and auto parts and expand the U.S. share of the Japanese auto market, industry analysts said.

The U.S. "Big Three" automakers, including GM, filed a complaint about the dumping of Japanese-made minivans last May, causing discord between Toyota and GM, they said.

"Our relationship with GM is too tense to be called friendly," said a Toyota executive in charge of its overseas operations.

But Toyota hopes to extend its joint venture deal with GM which expires at the end of 1996, the executive said.

The U.S. calls for limits on the number of cars Japan exports to the U.S. and a sharp rise in local parts procurement are expected to continue escalating, the analysts said.

The analysts agree that they are unsure if greater cooperation with GM will help Toyota ease the tension between the U.S. and Japanese automakers and if it will help bring Toyota cars full U.S. citizenship.

Poll Shows 52 Percent Oppose Peacekeeping Law

OW2306092192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0832 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 23 KYODO—More than half of the people polled object to sending Japanese troops overseas on United Nations peacekeeping missions, according to a nationwide telephone survey by KYODO News Service Tuesday.

The survey conducted over the weekend found 52.5 percent of those polled oppose the recent peacekeeping law while 44.1 percent favor it.

The poll covered just 1,000 people, 487 men and 513 women, through telephone interview.

The government promulgated the law last week after the Diet approved it with support from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two centrist parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP).

On the constitutionality of the peacekeeping law, 23.4 percent said the law violates Japan's war-renouncing constitution, and 45.9 percent doubted its validity. Only 22.1 percent replied they think the law does not violate the constitution.

Most respondents, 70.5 percent of them, said they opposed a battery of vote delaying tactics by the largest opposition group, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) to block passage of the legislation, the survey showed.

The two opposition groups submitted a series of motions against Cabinet ministers and Diet officials and used the filibuster tactic of shuffling very slowly to cast their ballots.

The survey found 56.9 percent of the pollees opposed the submission of mass resignations by members of the SDP and the small opposition United Social Democratic Party (USDP), in the House of Representatives who want to dissolve the lower house and call a general election.

Prior to the final vote June 15, 141 members of the SDP and the USDP submitted letters of resignations to lower house speaker Yoshio Sakurauchi to protest the peacekeeping legislation.

The two parties boycotted the final vote on the bill and the bill easily was approved. Since then action on the resignation letters has been pending.

Asked about the LDP and its supporters forcing a vote on the legislation despite the opposition, 57.4 percent of the respondents disliked the move, and 40 percent said they support it.

Most men surveyed favored the law, but about 60 percent of the women opposed it.

On the House of Councillors election July 26, 70 percent of the respondents said they will take into account the peacekeeping law in deciding which candidate to support, 27.3 percent said they will not consider the bill when voting.

While nearly 60 percent of the supporters of the law said they will consider the issue when they vote, about 80 percent of its opponents said they will consider it when selecting candidates.

The survey showed support for the LDP was 30.2 percent, 16.4 percent for the SDP, 3.1 percent for the JCP, 3.0 percent for Komeito, 2.7 percent for the DSP and 0.6 percent for the USDP. Uncommitted voters totaled 36.8 percent.

Compared to a survey last year, the LDP's support dropped 6.2 percent, while the SDP gained 7.1 percent, the survey showed.

Sihanouk Thanks Emperor for Aid to Cambodia

OW2306062392 Tokyo KYODO in English 0541 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 23 KYODO—Cambodian leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk met Emperor Akihito on Tuesday and expressed his gratitude for Japan's help in rehabilitating Cambodia, Imperial Household Agency officials said.

During the meeting at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo, Sihanouk said, "I appreciate Japan's efforts to help Cambodia."

Sihanouk added that the Tokyo conference held Monday aimed at assisting his country's reconstruction ended successfully.

"I'm glad to hear that the meeting has yielded significant results," the emperor was quoted as replying to Sihanouk.

Asked by the emperor about such issues as land mines and Cambodian refugees, Sihanouk said there are many problems to be settled in his country.

Sihanouk, head of the Supreme National Council (SNC), the reconciliation body comprised of leaders of the four Cambodian factions, came to Tokyo for the one-day ministerial conference on rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia.

Representatives of 33 nations, 13 international organizations, and the leaders of the four Cambodian factions attended the conference Monday.

Miyazawa Holds News Conference 22 Jun

OW2206094392 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0602 GMT 22 Jun 92

[News conference by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa with unidentified Japanese and foreign reporters at the prime minister's official residence in Tokyo—live]

[Text] [Unidentified dean of the press corps] Now, we will begin a news conference with the prime minister following the closure of the 123d session of the Diet. Regarding the proceedings of this news conference, I will ask general questions and these questions will be followed by questions from reporters present here. Since a news conference with the prime minister is being held for the first time in months, many questions are expected to be asked and I would like to request all reporters to ask their questions as concisely as possible. Now, I will ask questions.

Mr. Prime Minister, the latest Diet session came to a close after enacting the UN Peacekeeping Operations [PKO] Cooperation Bill. How are you going to carry out the activities of the PKO? How will you come to grips with political reform which has been deferred? At the latest Diet session, there was an unusual situation in which the lawmakers of the main opposition Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] tendered their resignations. How do you plan to handle these resignations? This next question concerns something that will take place in the future. The upper house elections will be held in July. Are you thinking of reshuffling your cabinet after the elections? Do you intend to call a snap general election after dissolving the Diet? I would like to ask you how you plan to manage the present political situation.

[Miyazawa] This morning, talks on the reconstruction of Cambodia were held in Tokyo and Prince Sihanouk, other Cambodians, and many people from other nations attended the talks. There are about 300,000 Cambodian refugees and they have to return home and find jobs. This will be tough work for the United Nations. The activities of the UN PKO involve helping the Cambodians reconstruct roads, bridges, and railroads. In other words, the activities of the UN PKO are in order to help them rebuild their nation. The activities have nothing to do with the civil war there. I think that it is necessary to help them in an efficient and quick way. We have no detailed information about what the Cambodians expect

Japan to do. A survey team composed of officials from government agencies will be sent in late June to Cambodia to tour that country and talk with Cambodian officials. I think that Japan should do what the Cambodians desire most.

Regarding political reform, the latest Diet session came to a close in a particular situation. There is something that the ruling and opposition parties have almost agreed upon in their negotiations. Regarding correction of the imbalance in the lower house seat distribution, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] has failed to achieve a full intra-party consensus and I regret this. The ruling party could achieve a full intra-party consensus if the political situation was normal. I caused a lot of trouble for the LDP parliamentarians concerned and I feel very regretful about it. I believe that the correction of the imbalance in the lower house seat distribution is something that the next Diet session should by all means achieve.

Regarding the general resignation tendered by parliamentarians of the SDPJ and other parties, I think that it is for the Diet to decide. I think that it is improper to snatch the mikes at the Diet session [laughing]. The opposition parliamentarians tendered their resignations after thinking various things. I regret the general resignations they tendered. Since their resignations are for the Diet to decide, I am not in a position to comment.

On your question about the reshuffling of my cabinet after the upper house elections, I have worked with the present members of my cabinet since last November. I think that they are a very good team, I would like to continue working with this team if possible. Right now, I do not have any concrete plans for a reshuffle.

You just asked me if I intend to call a snap general election after dissolving the Diet, I have no plans whatsoever with regard to dissolving the Diet and calling a general election.

[Dean of the press corps] Thank you.

[Reporter] I would like to ask you how you plan to manage the economy in the future. You are said to have met today with the four executives of the ruling LDP to direct various things. There is a view that the government needs to formulate a new package to stimulate the economy before the Munich Summit. Mr. Prime Minister, you have frequently mentioned the need to compile a supplementary budget. If you believe that the government needs to take steps to stimulate the economy, I would like to ask you when the government plans to compile the supplementary budget and how big the supplementary budget will be.

[Miyazawa] I met today with the LDP executives; 75 percent of public works projects have been implemented earlier than planned and other government projects have also been hurriedly implemented. I believe that since the government has taken bold steps to spur the economy, the size of the supplementary budget will be determined depending on the progress of economic stimulation. Among other things, it is quite natural that the earlier implementation of the public works projects alone is not enough to spur the present economy. In the wake of stabilized land prices, local governments are vigorously constructing very large-scale garbage disposal facilities and they cannot afford the construction of these facilities with present subsidies from the central government. The central government intends to leave the construction of such facilities to the local governments. If the local governments are found to be unable to afford the construction, the central government will provide the necessary subsidies to purchase equipment for the facilities. The local governments are constructing very large-type life-related facilities. I regard the construction of these facilities as a means to spur the economy.

Regarding small businesses, the government took steps to reactivate their business activities in its recent emergency package to stimulate the economy. They are invariably suffering from a work force shortage. They intend to make more investments in improving their productivity; manufacturing and non-manufacturing small businesses intend to do so. The government must take various steps to help them financially. The government has enough financial resources for investments and it intends to ask state-run financial institutions to increase the ceiling on their loans to small businesses. The government will give preferential treatment to investments in labor-saving facilities by small businesses. Depending on the case, the government may consider giving preferential treatment on other investments they make. The government intends to think about these points.

In general, the local governments have come to implement large-type public works projects and they have enthusiasm about implementing such projects. I think that the government should take new steps to stimulate the economy taking their projects into account. Today, I and the LDP executives discussed these matters. Regarding the size of the supplementary budget, the government needs to watch the present economic trend for the time being. I and the LDP executives agreed to take concrete steps to spur the economy at the appropriate time. At the meeting with the executives, I asked them to consult with the finance minister. This is what I and the LDP executives discussed at today's meeting.

[Reporter] The next question concerns the Munich summit. I think that at the forthcoming summit, the question of aid to Russia and the northern territories issue will become major topics, as well as macroeconomic issues. What is the prime minister's stand regarding the summit?

[Miyazawa] To be sure, the topics at the summit will probably include macroeconomic issues, problems about the former Soviet Union, the Middle East, developing countries, nuclear power plants in the former Soviet Union, and actions on nuclear arms, like dismantling arms or arms control. Speaking primarily of the former Soviet Union, particularly Russia, Mr. Yeltsin patiently is making his very best effort. The problems in Russia, after all, center around the lack of a market economy structure. The IMF is negotiating with Russia, but as far as they are concerned, if Russia wants to borrow money, they must implement promptly a market economy system, and that is bound to create very difficult conditions in Russia.

What Mr. Yeltsin probably sought while in Washington recently was to have such conditions eased, but if Russia does not follow major points of the conditions, there will be no full-fledged aid from the IMF or from us. That is the point the IMF is trying to make. The situation is such that it is doubtful whether things will work out by the time the summit is held. Anyway, that is the general situation.

Our country, of course, will participate in supplying aid. As you are aware, however, the northern territories issue remains unsolved. Our country's basic stand is that we will provide aid to Russia on the condition that Russia will domestically practice democracy in the true sense, will economically enter a market economy, and will diplomatically discard Stalinist expansionism. In other words, our side demands these three requirements. The northern territories issue comes under the last of the three conditions. We think the northern territories issue is a remnant and a symbol of Stalinist expansionism.

I think having this issue settled lawfully and sincerely will become a testimony to Russia's willingness to live anew. In that sense, this issue does not concern Japan and Russia only. I think that this is a specific test case for Russia in seeking rebirth [saisei] with the help of our side—the G-7. I have spoken with top leaders recently, and I think I have gained agreement from them on this issue. This is not an excuse. Our reasons for wanting to help Russia stem from goodwill and friendship. Hence, we think the Soviet Union [as heard] too should respond with goodwill and friendship.

[Reporter] The next question concerns environmental issues. Some predict the fall session of the Diet will be dominated by environmental issues. People are talking about legislation on the environmental basic law and about instituting the environmental tax. I would like to ask your views on environmental issues in general.

[Miyazawa] It was pleasing to see that the recent international conference promoted environmental issues worldwide. Japan has put a lot of effort into the environment, and thus we were able to leap out of the environmental problems of the 1970's. Japan may have been the only country which was able to say specifically what it wants to do in financial contributions at the Rio meeting. There is also a growing sense of wariness about these issues within the country.

I think it is necessary to think about environmental issues with an eye on the 21st century. It may turn out that the law governing pollution is not enough to deal with all the problems. We will need to go further, and to have a more appropriate law both at home and abroad. I hope that heads of ministries and offices concerned will proceed with environmental legislation, and most likely this will involve a lot of work. Questions about which areas should be covered by legislation, and on what scale they should be covered, are bound to arise. There may be discussions about how the legislation will come about as well. It is not clear whether all these preparations can be completed in time for the Diet's fall session. Work has only just begun, and people have been busy preparing for the recent summit. Anyway, from now on there is going to be a huge amount of work to do.

As for the environmental tax, which is being talked about more and more, it has two possible objectives. One objective will be to conserve energy resources by levying heavy taxes on consumption. The other objective is securing a new revenue source. So far, however, we have not been able to determine which objective should be sought and how. There is no clear and concrete answer to this question. Discussions will have to begin on the tax's detailed objectives, and about where the tax should apply. Also, should the tax be an earmarked tax or a general revenue tax? There are various questions to be answered. I think discussion will have to start from this point.

It may be a tax for good purposes, but there is no doubt that it is still a tax. It must gain people's understanding, but so far there has not been enough discussion to gain such understanding. Private industries' attention to environmental issues has been giving a good image to our country's industries. Individuals have also expressed concern about the issues, and now we face the question of how to accept such voluntary moves. It may be necessary to do something about them.

[Reporter] Are you speaking about them in reference to the environmental tax?

[Miyazawa] No, I am talking about these organizations and individuals in terms of how we can accommodate such voluntary actions.

[Dean of the press corps] With that, I would like to announce that questions from reporters' representatives have ended. Now I would like to have individual reporters ask questions.

[Reporter] I would like to ask you about the economy—namely, stock prices. Stock prices are breaking records by hitting bottom. What do you have to say about this? Are you considering any action?

[Miyazawa] Stock prices are bound to go up and down; therefore, I believe we should not think about doing anything about stock prices per se. In fact, the government's role is to make clear the basic economic policy and outlook for the future of the economy. I think this should be the main government stand.

[Reporter] Further on the economic trend, Mr. Prime Minister. In an earlier news conference you said that the economy had hit bottom and was rebounding. What is your view of the economy now?

[Miyazawa] I recall I did say that. At that time there were many views, but people accepted my view. It was only natural since growth in the previous October-December term was zero. I thought it would be strange if the economy did not bounce back. Now the April-June term is about to end. We will see about the term's performance a little past mid-September.

There is a feeling that inventory adjustments are slow, but housing construction is not so bad. The number of vender contracts seems to be increasing. I feel we have passed the worst.

[Reporter] The economic growth target for this year is 3.5 percent, right? Can this be achieved? Some say that it cannot.

[Miyazawa] Well, I do not think that is the case. Not long ago, it was said that it would be impossible to attain the 3.7 percent objective for fiscal 1992. It was even said that it might be difficult to attain 3 percent. But I said that this would not be the case. I think you still remember these facts. Well, it turned out to be 3.5 percent.

Therefore, we should not feel so desperate about the current situation. If proper measures are taken, the outcome will be known around June next year, at this time next year. It will depend on how we will do from now on. There will still be many difficulties that have to be overcome. However, it will be worth our while to try to overcome them.

[Reporter] The 3.5-percent growth rate is regarded as a commitment to the international community.

[Miyazawa] Since Japan has said that it would achieve it, I think, the people trust Japan will do it.

[Reporter] In connection with the supplementary budget, there will be the issue of sources of funding. This issue will be rather serious, right?

[Miyazawa] That is quite correct.

[Reporter] In this connection, what measures do you plan to take? It has been argued that either construction bonds or deficit-financing bonds should be issued.

[Miyazawa] Well, I would rather not take the measure of issuing deficit-financing bonds. Well, if the supplementary budget with the details as I have mentioned just now should be taken into consideration, various projects will probably become good reasons for issuing construction bonds. If this is taken into account, I would not hesitate to take such action. It will certainly have some results. Moreover, the plan of building a life-style superpower will be fulfilled through our investment in projects connected with our people's livelihood. I certainly will not hesitate to take such action. However, I would not want to issue deficit-financing bonds.

[Reporter] I can well understand why you do not want to issue deficit-financing bonds. When you served as chief cabinet secretary in the Suzuki cabinet, you had the experience of being forced to issue such bonds because of a deficit in revenues. And in the current case....

[Miyazawa, interrupting] Well, for my part I was also the official connected with the finance minister who had to stop the issuance. Construction and deficit-financing bonds are common in the fact that both of them involve interest payment. Even this fact should be pointed out—whether such an economic structure should be introduced is a very important issue. Therefore, as far as I am concerned, I would like to avoid taking this measure.

Among editorials and other commentaries that I have read in the papers, while some editorials call for taking such a measure, it seems that many more editorials recommend the opposite. For my part, I think I would rather avoid taking such action.

Perhaps there will be views both for and against this action.

[Reporter] I can understand why you want to avoid taking this action. Of course, [words indistinct] and then the question on whether or not deficit-financing should be issued will be brought up for discussion. Is that right?

[Miyazawa] Well, as far as I am concerned, I think this issue should be settled without taking this possibility into account.

[Dean of press corps] Any questions, reporters from any papers, please?

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, the so-called nine-plus and 10-minus plan [reform plan of adding one seat each to nine populated constituencies while eliminating one seat each from 10 other less populated districts] was not adopted at the last Diet sessions. What concrete measures do you plan to take to promote political reform, including this plan and other measures for drastic reform, in November? In a sense, given that issues like the Kyowa bribery scandal remain to be settled, the ability of Dietmen to clean up their acts is still in question. Under such circumstances, no concrete measures for improvement have been taken.

I would like to ask: While keeping in mind the drastic reform to be launched this November, how do you plan to correct the imbalance in lower house seat distribution? Is there any possibility that the nine-plus and 10-minus plan might be withdrawn if the circumstances so require?

[Miyazawa] At the consultative conference held during the last Diet sessions, a consensus was actually reached on various issues, including the issues of political funding and political ethics. Is that correct? If a bill on these issues had been submitted, it would have been adopted.

Furthermore, as far as the LDP is concerned, party executives have been authorized to handle the nine-plus and 10-minus plan. If this plan had been submitted to the consultative conference on political reform, I think all these bills would have been adopted if normal relationships had existed among various parties and if Diet management had found itself in a normal situation, because discussions had nearly been completed.

No one should be blamed for being too lazy. I am very sorry that under these circumstances, no action was taken on this issue. Well, I took various factors into consideration. Since I felt that this is a common issue that has to be settled on a stage where all parties are present, I have decided that the bill has to be adopted after deliberations are conducted on a common stage where various parties are present. Therefore, I felt that under those circumstances, no other action could have been taken. When Diet management is normalized, we hope that this bill will be adopted after deliberation. Since I think that drastic reform will come after its adoption, I hope that legislation will be completed on those bills that could have been adopted, including the bill on correcting the imbalance in lower house seat distribution, when the next chance for promoting political reform comes up.

[Reporter] In that case, with regard to urgent tasks and drastic reform, will the nine-plus and 10-minus plan be regarded as an urgent task and taken up at the next Diet session following the upcoming election in July so as to promote urgent correction?

[Miyazawa] Yes, that is precisely the request I would like to make.

[Reporter] What about its relations with the drastic reform to be carried out in November?

[Miyazawa] Very close.

[Reporter] It has also been argued that this task should be completed at the same time as the drastic reform.

[Miyazawa] Since the drastic reform scheduled for November is really going to be drastic, there is a great possibility that other factors will be involved. In that case, there will probably be varying arguments. Then, even if a decision should be made on the issue, the bill will not necessarily take immediate effect. I have an idea that the plan should be put into effect by the sixth year of the Heisei Era [1994]. It is true that I have drastic reform in mind. However, I do not think that the bill can take effect immediately.

In this connection, I have not changed my idea that we should have long-term hopes for correcting the imbalance in seat distribution by increasing nine seats in populous constituencies, while eliminating 10 seats in less populated districts, but certainly not by increasing four in certain districts while eliminating four in other districts. Therefore, I would like to settle this issue at the next Diet session. I still have the same plan in mind.

[Reporter] The seventh round of normalization talks between Japan and North Korea ended last month; almost two years have passed since the three parties [the Korean Workers Party, the Liberal Democratic Party, and the Social Democratic Party] issued a joint declaration. I would like to ask you about your views on the development of Japanese-North Korean normalization talks.

[Miyazawa] There have been arguments over North Korea's use of plutonium produced at a reprocessing facility, which is said to be located at Yongbyon. The DPRK has said that the plutonium produced at the facility is used for experimental purposes and that they have no reactors to use the plutonium. The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] failed to make clear what the DPRK was using the plutonium for in its first inspection. Fortunately, the two Koreas have agreed to conduct reciprocal inspections. By allowing inspections at Yongbyon, the DPRK will be able to remove doubts about itself—I mean if the DPRK is clean. In the end, the normalization talks are connected to the nuclear issue in North Korea, which is a problem between the two Koreas. Also, Japan cannot help having concern over the nuclear issue because if neighboring countries possess nuclear missiles that can travel over certain distances and reach Japan or at least the western part of Japan, we consider this a threat. Thus, if the nuclear issue is settled, progress will be made in the negotiations for normalizing relations because solving that question means removal of the biggest obstacle to bilateral talks. Not only Japan, but also South Korea, the United States, and the IAEA are concerned with the nuclear issue. The IAEA has shown great interest in solving the issue. I think it is important for Japan to verify the nuclear situation in North Korea before cooperating with the nations and organizations concerned.

[Reporter] Negotiations between Japan and the DPRK are scheduled for the end of July. Will the two nations inevitably discuss the nuclear problem at the July negotiations as a pressing issue?

[Miyazawa] Since the DPRK has recognized the issue, I think whether or not progress will be made in the negotiations depends on how the DPRK copes with the issue, not on whether Japan discusses the matter.

[Reporter] The United States has various opinions concerning the issue as well. Among them, there are two leading opinions; one opinion supports the idea of putting pressure on the DPRK to settle the issue and the other favors the idea of concerned nations making certain proposals. It is certain that the Japanese Government cannot ignore the nuclear issue. Is Japan prepared to make a proposal to solve the issue?

[Miyazawa] This issue has been preventing the two nations from making progress in bilateral talks. It is important to know whether or not there is a nuclear issue between the two nations. If there is not, it is okay. If the issue actually exists between us, I would like to know how the DPRK intends to cope with it. Whether or not progress will be made at the bilateral negotiations depends on how the DPRK handles the issue.

[Reporter] I would like to ask about the Emperor's visit to China. When you recently made a speech at the press center, you sounded like you were more positive about the visit than before. Has there been a change in your view or in the government's policy over this issue?

[Miyazawa] No, there has been no change in Japan's position. When CPC General Secretary Jiang Zemin visited Japan, I certainly said to him that the Japanese Government would study the possibility in earnest. Japan and China are celebrating the 20th anniversary of normalized relations this year despite some troubles in the past. I think it is very significant that the two superpowers, which operate under different systems, have promoted friendship. Thus, I believe that the Emperor's visit to China is of great significance. This is what I have been thinking. I also realize that there are various views regarding the matter within the country. I think it is important that the Emperor's visit to China, if realized, be made with the blessings of the people. It is desirable that China and Japan deepen mutual understanding and that both nations create favorable conditions for the Emperor's visit. If such favorable conditions are not created, the government may have to reconsider the visit. The government should deal with the issue by taking the feelings of the general public into consideration.

[Unidentified reporter] The possibility of the Emperor's visit to China this fall has already been discussed. Do you mean that it will be quite difficult for the Emperor to visit China as long there is opposition?

[Miyazawa] Well, I think that it will be no problem after people understand the situation and come to feel that the Emperor should visit. I do not mean to say that we need to obtain everybody's agreement, but that we only want to ask him to visit China if an atmosphere has been created wherein we can happily ask him to visit.

[Unidentified reporter] In connection with this issue, is there any possibility that you will meet influential leaders to consolidate views within the party on bringing about the Emperor's visit to China, Mr. Prime Minister?

[Miyazawa] I am not saying that coordination within the party is needed. I think that we need to grasp the Chinese people's feelings toward this issue, and that we will naturally understand each other as time goes by. People's opinions are based on their feelings about a situation. I think that I would not try to consolidate views or to persuade influential leaders. I think that we need to keep our eyes on the natural course of the future.

[Unidentified reporter] I want to ask two questions about the House of Councillors election. One question concerns the election's focal points. What points are you going to stress during the campaign and how are you going to cope with the election? The other question is that I want to ask is if you have any concrete goals for the election. For example, for the LDP, you may want to obtain a majority of seats. Do you have any concrete goals concerning the number of seats for the House of Councillors? Please answer these two questions.

[Miyazawa] Well, concerning the election's focus, I think the economy will be the main point in the election, but in addition to this, some may stress that the issue of making Japan a life-style superpower is a major issue in the election, while another may stress that PKO activities are the focal point. The ruling and opposition parties have differing views; however, I think that the economic issue is the most important issue. In addition, the reporter asked how many seats I want to obtain and what my goal is for the House of Councilors election. Since we fight the election on the assumption that we will win, we want to get all the seats, of course. But that is still not enough. What we have to do is to regain the majority of seats through two elections. Since the upcoming election is the first of these elections, we have to produce the best possible results then.

[Reporter] The UN secretary general has suggested an idea to establish a UN forces group. What are Japan's [words indistinct]?

[Miyazawa] You are talking about a plan proposed recently by Butrus-Ghali? After reading about his idea, I found that it is totally different from the peacekeeping forces idea. Even though I do not know if his idea should be regarded as part of peacekeeping or peacemaking forces, I understand that his proposal aims to prevent war before it happens by a special agreement reached among nations. But Ghali also says that these UN forces may not be permanent. He says that his plan aims to prevent war by sending troops before war breaks out. Frankly speaking, I think that it would be difficult to realize his idea. I understand his proposal, but I do not think it would be easy. He says it is also different from the multilateral forces method. Although the UN secretary general proposes the idea of preventing war by sending troops before war actually starts, I do not think it is possible for the UN to have such strong power. I think it is an ambitious proposal, but not very realistic.

[Reporter] My question concerns the Diet. As was mentioned just now, the Diet is in an extremely abnormal situation, with all the Diet members of the Social Democratic Party [SDP] submitting their resignations.

Mr. Prime Minister, you have just said that you feel very sorry about this situation. In the old days, an issue remained unsettled without holding any dialogue with the SDP during the years of [words indistinct]. I would like to hear what you think of such a situation, and [words indistinct]. Since there seem to be plans for talks among party heads, do you have any proposals to make for returning to normal party politics now that the Diet has ended?

[Miyazawa] Well, at the plenary session of all Diet members of both houses from our party held on the last day of the Diet session, I stated that as a parliamentarian, I felt very sorry about the situation. That is because I believe that parliamentarians, in their role, should stay in the Diet and engage in debates over national affairs by stating their views.

This is my understanding of the duties of a Dietman, and based on this view, I said that I felt very sorry.

However, when viewed from a different standpoint, the ruling and opposition parties are supposed to be discussing various issues from what may be called conflicting viewpoints. Therefore, I feel that the question as to whether it is appropriate for an opposition party to resort to such a tactic should be left to our people's judgment.

And I feel that, as a person responsible for a political party, it is reasonable for me to make such comments when it comes to an issue involving political parties.

And since the summit will be held soon, I plan to have talks with party heads as was mentioned just now. However, I have no intention of making comments on this issue before the talks.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] With regard to the recent PKO bill, you have recruited the cooperation of Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP]. In the future, do you plan to deal with the Diet under the so-called LDP-Komeito-DSP coalition centered on cooperation with both Komeito and the DSP?

[Miyazawa] It is true that regarding the adoption of the PKO bill, we had the bill adopted through the full cooperation of both Komeito and DSP, or through the joint cooperation of the three parties. In this case, I think that we were able to establish a cooperative relationship because our three parties shared the same policy. And I feel that whether cooperative or conflicting relationships will be created between the different parties should be based on a judgment of their policies. Therefore, I think it would be undesirable to take this example as a fixed pattern now. Different relationships will be created on the basis of policy agreement or disagreement on each and every concrete bill.

In the recent case, it was very fortunate that a cooperative relationship was created jointly among all the three parties. At any rate, what has to be taken into consideration lies in the policies.

[Reporter] Then, following the upper house election—of course, it may depend on whether the LDP wins or loses—Mr. Prime Minister, you don't have any thoughts in your mind about the possibility of regrouping the political parties or of recruiting cooperation from both Komeito and the DSP or to establishing a so-called policy coalition by giving two or three cabinet posts to these two parties. You will insist to the last on a partial coalition, but you have no intention at all of inviting them to join the cabinet even if it should turn out to be a policy coalition. Is that right?

[Miyazawa] Well, concerning this issue, I have never heard such an opinion expressed by either Komeito or the DSP. Therefore, I can not answer this question, based as it is on a supposition. However, both Komeito and the DSP, for their parts, definitely regard themselves as political parties, and they certainly have their own party platforms. Therefore, I don't think that such views will be brought up very easily.

[Reporter] For some time, various issues concerning foreign affairs centered on the Munich Summit have been brought up. When you became prime minister, you were known as Miyazawa who specializes in foreign affairs.

Concerning your approaches, I have noticed, Mr. Prime Minister, that you seem to have laid much emphasis on handling foreign affairs, particularly the northern territories issue. I would like to ask about your basic approach toward current diplomatic strategy, or how you plan to handle overall foreign affairs, including various issues concerned with Russia.

[Miyazawa] Concerning those issues connected with Russia, I feel somehow that it is rather unnatural that no peace treaty has been signed between our two powers. And since the Soviet Union, or rather, Russia under new President Yeltsin, has started taking the line as I have mentioned just now, I feel that there will be no other chances except the one at present and now is the time for concluding the peace treaty. I think the tide now is favorable for this purpose, which, of course, means settlement of the territories issue.

As I have just stated, it certainly is an issue that concerns our two nations. However, now is the important time for admitting Russia into the so-called group of industrialized nations. Thus, it is no longer merely an issue involving our two nations, and fortunately the G-7 nations have nearly reached a consensus that it is a common task to be shared by the industrialized nations. In this connection, the issue will be brought up at the summit and President Yeltsin will also come to Munich. And I think that we have now entered an important stage in handling this issue, and this will lead to Mr. Yeltsin's visit to Japan in September. I feel that this is an important task and his visit will be of great significance.

Moreover, in this post-Cold War age, there is a roof called the CSCE in Europe. Well, when it comes to a roof, I would say it is merely something like a temporary roof so far. Somehow or other, people have come to think about something like it. In our Asia, through Chief Cabinet Secretary Kato's efforts, discussions have been held on various Asian problems. And it is just today that Mr. Lee Kuan Yew has agreed to come to Japan for this purpose.

As far as Asia is concerned, the point at issue is what mechanism can be worked to ensure security in the future. Of course, the United States will be invited to join, and perhaps China and the Soviet Union, too. I feel that how to develop this concept that envisions the future is another important task despite the fact that it may take much time.

[Reporter] I would like to confirm two points about foreign policy. This is what I have learned from reading [words indistinct]: At the U.S.-Russian summit, President Bush tried to influence President Yeltsin on the northern territories issue, but President Yeltsin did not make any positive responses.

First, I would like to ask you how much progress you think will be made on this issue during President Yeltsin's visit this fall. Also, concerning the Emperor's visit to China, I think you just mentioned that you will watch, for the time being, for further developments. In that case, does it follow that it will be rather difficult for the Emperor to visit China on this occasion marking the 20th anniversary of the normalization of our diplomatic relations with China?

[Miyazawa] Let me answer the second question first. That is not what I meant. Our two nations attach great importance to this issue, and I have been saying that serious consideration will be given to this issue. Through these efforts, a favorable atmosphere in which most people feel it desirable to have the Emperor visit China may be created. Also, what I meant is that we will cherish development in this direction. I certainly did not mean to reply in a negative sense.

Well, concerning the first question—excuse me, but what was your first question?

[Reporter] Well, concerning President Yeltsin's visit scheduled in September...

[Miyazawa, interrupting] That is right. I have it now. Well, I think it is certainly not an easy problem as far as Russia is concerned. I think it is understandable when it is viewed from a different point of view. This is quite true when it is viewed from the viewpoint of law and justice. Nevertheless, this condition has continued for more than 40 years now. Therefore, the people should be informed of the actual situation in an effort to win their understanding. Of course, it will probably take a lot of work. Therefore, we do not consider it an easy task.

However, when taking various factors into consideration, Japan would like to assist Russia out of friendship and goodwill because this will be of great significance to Russia. Therefore, we have great expectations that Russia will also respond with friendship and goodwill. Also, I do not think it is an easy task to work out a consensus at home under such circumstances. Nevertheless, he said in New York last January that he would like to visit Japan in September because the issue still remains unsettled. Therefore, I think he is still working on some measures. I have never thought that it would be easy to settle this issue.

[Reporter] You just mentioned that there are no concrete plans for a cabinet reshuffle at this moment. Does this mean you will think it over after the upper house elections?

[Miyazawa] I am convinced that the current cabinet is an excellent team, and I do not think it should be reshuffled at this moment. Well, as you have just asked, what should I do if other factors such as elections are involved. In such a case, I cannot predict what factors will be involved and give a definite answer. Nevertheless, I have no intention of reshuffling the cabinet now.

[Reporter] This issue also involves the foreign minister's ill health. Taking this into account, what do you plan to do?

[Miyazawa] Well, Mr. Watanabe is doing well following his operation. He has phoned me often. After a certain period of time has elapsed, even though we cannot expect him to act as someone competent in all fields, I am confident he will be able to fully carry out assignments. Meanwhile, measures can be taken to deal with the summit. For example, regarding the conference on the Cambodian issue held today, I could attend in his place. Moreover, if he should take a short time to recover, I think he will be able to serve in his original capacity. Therefore, I have never taken this case into account in connection with the question you just raised.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, in terms of political reform, you just mentioned that the related bill was almost adopted at the last Diet session. However, at the outset of the last Diet session, it was revealed that Diet member Fumio Abe, who had once served as director of the secretariat of the Miyazawa faction, was involved in a bribery scandal. Therefore, many of our people expected that you, Mr. Prime Minister, would bring your leadership into full play in carrying out political reform during the last Diet session.

[Miyazawa] I think this is quite true.

[Reporter] However, as a result, although there have been various developments in the meantime, no concrete achievements whatsoever have been made. Mr. Prime Minister, what do you think of your own responsibility in this matter?

[Miyazawa] Well, because these events just occurred not long ago, you must be able to recall them very vividly. Both the PKO bill and political reform bill were almost settled through the so-called dango [unofficial prior consultations] because the Diet was in a rather abnormal situation with all-night sessions continuing for 10 days. Moreover, the situation got worse later. However, because the PKO bill was adopted on Monday, we could have had nearly a week to deliberate the other bill under normal circumstances. We were able to somehow reach a consensus within our party on entrusting the executives to handle the bill, and conclusions were reached on other issues at the consultative conference on political reform. Under normal circumstances, I think that we could have adopted the concerned bill, and I feel very sorry that the bill was not adopted. Even if it can be pointed out that we had time to handle the bill, we felt that it is an issue that should be discussed on the common stage where all parties are present. That is the reason why we had to give up our plan. Anyway, if the Diet was under its normal management, it would have been adopted by now. I feel very sorry about it.

[Dean of the press corps] The time is almost up now. Does any paper have any more questions to ask? Well, then, we would like to conclude today's news conference.

[Miyazawa] Thank you very much.

North Korea

30 Jun North-South Nuclear Control Meeting Set

SK2306104092 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 23 (KCNA)—Choe U-chin, chairman of the North side to the Joint North-South Nuclear Control Committee, agreed to the proposal of the South side to hold the sixth meeting of the committee on June 30.

The South side not only turned down the North's repeated proposal to hold the sixth meeting on June 16 but also spread the rumour that the meeting of the committee "collapsed," making it impossible to open it.

The telephone message sent to Kong No-myong, chairman of the South side to the Joint North-South Nuclear Control Committee, today said a correct solution of the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula is a very important issue related to the future destiny of the 70 million fellow countrymen and it is an urgent national task at present.

Your side, it urged, must no more create artificial obstacles and difficulties in the work of the Joint Nuclear Control Committee but approach the work for removing the very source of the nuclear danger on the Korean peninsula with sincere attitude and stance.

We notify you that we will go to the conference room on June 30, though we consider it rather late to have the sixth meeting of the committee that day, said the message.

'Alarming Situation' in Red Cross Talks Discussed

SK2206150892 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1215 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] The third contact between working-level Red Cross officials of the North and the South was held.

The third contact on the exchange of elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes was held today in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom.

The head of our side's delegation gave a news briefing after the contact. He pointed out that agreement was reached on almost all the provisions made in the agreements reached during the two previous contacts thanks to our side's sincere efforts. He touched on a very alarming situation by pointing to actual instances, which recently have been taking place in South Korea. These instances may reduce the agreement on exchanging elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes to a blank sheet of paper.

The South Korean authorities openly declared that unless someone else's nuclear issue is resolved, no progress can be expected in North-South relations. These authorities waged a large scale anti-Republic commotion against us. Furthermore, they even raved along with the United States and Japan about so-called sanctions and military countermeasures. Our side reminded the South side that during the past contacts, we already sternly warned that such an act by the South Korean authorities may aggravate North-South relations and may abort [yusan sikhida] the work of exchanging elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes. North-South relations had been satisfactorily developing.

Our side stressed that if the South side truly wants to see the implementation of the agreement on exchanging the elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes, it should have taken appropriate steps in a bid to immediately halt the South Korean authorities' premeditated maneuvers to block the road of exchanging the visiting groups.

The South Korean authorities, however, in defiance of our side's repeated warnings and advice, made the North-South relations more acute after the second contact. They committed provocative maneuvers more openly to abort the work of exchanging the elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes. Our side strongly called the South side to account for this.

A few days ago, the South Korean authorities and the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] held a so-called joint administration and party conference and decided to withhold all North-South exchanges until North-South mutual nuclear inspections are realized. Our side condemned this as a most undisguised challenge to rupture [patan sikhida] the work of exchanging the elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes and not to effectuate the annexed agreements at the eighth North-South high-level talks.

Our side stressed that as for the nuclear issue, it was already resolved. Our nuclear development was confirmed by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] as designed for peaceful purposes. Therefore, the South Korean authorities have no grounds to pick a fight with us any longer. Our side made it clear once again that the responsibility for delaying the nuclear inspection between the North and the South entirely rests on the South side, which refused the overall inspection of U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea.

Our side stressed that the issue of exchanging the elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes is one of the provisions agreed upon during the seventh North-South high-level talks and not agreed upon in the proposals of both sides' Red Cross organizations. The South Korean authorities said that they want to realize the work of exchanging the elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes even while claiming that they will not implement all agreements. This is, indeed, ridiculous sophism.

The South Korean authorities know very well that even if the delegates of both sides reach an agreement on the issue of procedures to exchange the elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes under the condition in which the South Korean authorities claim that they will withhold all North-South exchanges, the agreement will be meaningless. Thus, our side pointed out that under this situation, discussion of these issues while sitting face to face itself is a mockery to the families and relatives who are looking forward to meeting their kin.

Our side urged the South side to clearly show, before discussing the working-level issues on the exchange of visiting groups, its position on whether or not it will sincerely implement the work of exchanging the elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes as agreed on by both sides.

On the other hand, the South side, while avoiding answering our side's questions, made absurd remarks that taking issue with the South Korean authorities' remarks is an act of creating obstacles to the contact and insisted on discussing only the issue of procedures.

Concerning this, our side pointed out that because of the South Korean authorities' unreasonable act, the work of exchanging the elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes is at a crossroads on whether or not it will be implemented. Our side stressed that when the South Korean authorities said that they will withhold the agreements reached by the North and the South, it will be of no use to discuss the issue of procedures.

Our side revealed that the South Korean authorities, who urged us to accept international inspection, waged another nuclear commotion and are pursuing insidious political purposes. This was as a result of the satisfactory IAEA inspection of our nuclear facilities. Our side urged the South side's Red Cross Society not to support the authorities.

To this, the South side said that the authorities' remarks that they will withhold the North-South agreement unless the nuclear issue is resolved between the North and the South are not true but that the media merely reported in their own way. Thus, the South side attempted to escape from the corner where it was driven.

Our side pointed out that the South side does not fully represent the authorities' position and urged the South Korean authorities to clearly show their attitude on whether or not they will implement the North-South agreement.

Our side also asked about when and how the South side will repatriate old man Yi In-mo. To this, the South side said that the issue of old man Yi In-mo is one which should be resolved politically between the authorities and has nothing to do with humanitarian issues. Our side asked why the issue of old man Yi In-mo is one which should be politically resolved between the authorities. We also asked if there is any more important issue than that of old man Yi In-mo, who is suffering various pains in the South alone, having left his wife and sons in his home. But the South side failed to answer this.

Summing up the contact, our side made it clear that unless the South Korean authorities clearly show their attitude as to whether or not they will implement the North-South agreement, discussion of the work of exchanging the elderly parent visiting groups and art troupes will be difficult.

The two sides agreed to designate the date of the next contact through the liaison offices at Panmunjom. The agreement for the date will be in accordance with the South Korean authorities' expression of their attitude and their true intention at the party-administration conference in deciding to withhold all North-South exchanges.

Red Cross Notifies South of Message for 24 Jun

SK2306103592 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1022 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 23 (KCNA)—Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today sent a telephone message to Kang Yong-hun, president of the South Korean Red Cross.

Notifying the South side that two liaison officials would be sent to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at 3, P.M. on June 24, 1992, (Wednesday) to transfer a letter addressed to the chairman of the South Korean History Society by the chairman of the Korean Academic Society of History, the message expressed the hope that the South side would take a corresponding measure.

Leaders Receive Letters From Two U.S. Groups

Kim Il-song Thanked for Hospitality

SK2206053092 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0440 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received letters of thanks respectively from President Robert Grant and National Political Director Gary Jarmin of the American Freedom Coalition who had visited Korea.

In their letters they expressed thanks to President Kim Il-song for the warm hospitality accorded to the delegation of the American Freedom Coalition during its visit to the DPRK.

They said they were deeply impressed by the fact that President Kim Il-song found his precious time to receive the delegation and exchange with it most successful and useful views.

Referring to the relations between the two countries, they said the cold winter was gone and a new spring came and now is the time to sow new seeds of friendship on the basis of mutual respect and trust.

In the letters they hoped for mutual serious discussion and exchange of views in future.

Kim Chong-il Receives Missives

SK2206054092 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0500 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received letters of thanks respectively from Robert Grant, president, and Gary Jarmin, national political director, of the American Freedom Coalition, who had visited Korea.

They expressed thanks to Comrade Kim Chong-il who enabled the delegation of the American Freedom Coalition to visit the DPRK and to learn a lot of things, having a good time during its stay.

They said the delegation during its stay in Korea was accorded the best hospitality and exchanged useful and constructive views on several occasions.

They said President Kim Il-song received the delegation, leaving deep impressions upon all of them, and his views aroused sympathy.

Believing that the Korea visit of the delegation will help to develop the friendly, peaceful and mutually beneficial relations between the two countries, they hoped for another visit to the DPRK.

Kim Il-song Sends Condolences to PRC Leaders

SK2206235892 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song sent his condolences to PRC party and state leaders.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and president of the DPRK, sent his condolences to Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, and Comrade Yang Shangkun, president of the PRC, regarding Comrade Li Xiannian's death, who was president of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Congress [CPPCC].

The condolence message reads:

Beijing

Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, and Comrade Yang Shangkun, president of the PRC:

Upon hearing the sad news that Comrade Li Xiannian, president of the National Committee of the CPPCC, had passed away, I, in the name of the WPK Central Committee, the DPRK Government, the Korean people, and in my own name, express my deep sorrow over the death of the deceased to you and through you to the CPC Central Committee, the PRC Government, the Chinese people, and the bereaved family of the deceased.

As one of the outstanding leaders of the CPC and state, Comrade Li Xiannian made a great contribution to the cause of the Chinese revolution and socialist construction over many years and devoted himself to stabilizing and uniting the country as well as reunifying his fatherland.

As a close friend of the Korean people, Comrade Li Xiannian always actively supported and encouraged our people in their revolutionary struggle and greatly contributed to strengthening the great friendship and unity between the peoples of Korea and China.

Although Comrade Li Xiannian has left us, the noble accomplishments he has left behind will shine forever.

[signed] Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and president of the DPRK

[dated] 22 June 1992 Pyongyang

Kim Il-song Sends Message to Prince Sihanouk

SK2306105592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1017 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 23 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and president of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, on the occasion of the national day of Cambodia.

The message reads in part:

The ceasefire in Cambodia in June last year and the conclusion of a peace agreement have opened a broad avenue for the Cambodian people to achieve national reconciliation and unity and reconstruct the country.

The Korean people are glad to note that the factions in Cambodia got united and brought a big progress in the work for achieving peace and stability of the country, surmounting all difficulties, under the guidance of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia with you, head of state of Cambodia, as president and support you in your just cause.

I sincerely wish Your Royal Highness Samdech and the people of Cambodia greater success in the work for healing the war wounds and building a prosperous new Cambodia and you good health and happiness.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I express the belief that the intimacy between us and the friendly and cooperative relations between our two peoples which have been deepened through your visit to Korea in April will, in the future, continue to strengthen and develop.

Article Reported on Japan's 'Nuclear Development'

SK2206155792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1510 GMT 22 Jun 92

["Japanese Military Analyst on Japan's Policy of Nuclear Development"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 22 (KCNA)—Japanese military analyst Ayajo Kubo contributed to CHOSON SINBO June 19 an article entitled "Japan's Policy of Nuclear Development Which Has Been Promoted Clandestinely."

The Japanese Government is intending to put international pressure on the side of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the Japan-DPRK negotiations, he said, and continued:

This is, in a word, a measure to cope with a meeting for deliberation on the implementation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty slated for 1995. They seek in this to encourage the South Korean "regime" aiming to "march North to unify," following the United States, ignore its responsibility for its past aggression and huge compensations consequent upon it and provide "justification" for Japan's plan of nuclear arming and thereby secure a monopolistic domination system in the supply of nuclear fuel.

As far as her responsibility for the past aggression and colossal compensations consequent upon it are concerned, Japan is trying to hush up her aggressive acts of the past and evade her war responsibility by bringing into bolder relief only the aspect of "Japan-U.S. war" out of her aggression and colonial domination over Asian countries.

As for the intention to find "justification" for Japan's plan of nuclear arming, the Japanese Government and capitalists leave room for Japan's nuclear arming by saying "it is necessary to make efforts to obtain to a high extent scientific and industrial potentials which provide possibility of nuclear arming according to change of the situation in future," as was disclosed in "problems surrounding the nuclear policy of our country," a policy document compiled in the form of proposal by the Society for the Study of the International Situation, a foundation, on February 23, 1967. Accordingly, the "technical research and development program" (103 kinds of sophisticated weapons) promoting the nationalisation of all nuclear-related weapons beside nuclear warheads was carried out in the third defence program (1967-1971).

That is why the government strongly rejects "legalisation" that guarantees the international effect of the three "non-nuclear principles."

The DPRK side demands a total inspection of the U.S. forces' nuclear bases. And the U.S. forces and South Korean side must prove at least that there are no nuclear weapons in military bases in Masan, Chinhae, Pusan, Ulsan, Kwangju, Kimje, Kunsan, Kongju, Taegu, Pohang, Osan, Kimpo, Seoul, Uijongbu, Tongduchon, Chunchon, Kangnung, Samchok, Ulsan, and Sokcho.

Moreover, it is the U.S. military bases in Japan over which nuclear suspicion is growing all the more.

In addition the stockpiling of plutonium by Japan herself offers a problem.

According to a long-term plan published by the Japan Atomic Energy Commission, Japan would stockpile 85 tons of plutonium by 2010. A civic organisation put the amount at 100 tons, which is fabulous enough to produce more than 10,000 nuclear warheads. The system of nuclear weapons capable of firing nuclear warheads had been established already in the period of the third defence program, which has a capacity to possess nuclear warheads if they intend to develop them.

The Japanese Government should first demand a nuclear inspection of the U.S. military bases in Japan before talking about "nuclear inspection" of the DPRK.

It also must not turn away from the eyes of suspicion of the world focussed on Japan's development of nuclear weapons.

Japan's 'Dominationist Ambition' Denounced

SK2006103592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 20 Jun 92

["'Bill' for Overseas Expansion"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 20 (KCNA)—The "U.N. Peacekeeping Operation Bill" carried at the Japanese Diet is designed to legalize the overseas dispatch of the "Self-defence Forces" [SDF] under the cloak of "international contribution" and lay a foothold for turning Japan into a military power, charges NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today.

The main purpose sought by the Japanese authorities in passing the "bill", it notes, is to turn Japan into a political power and military power and thus display the international leading capacity and realize its dominationist ambition.

It is quite clear that the "SDF" possessed of one of the biggest military capabilities in the world, though it marches overseas under the flag of the "United Nations" now, will race along the road of overseas expansion, urged by the militarist ambition as the "Imperial Army" did, the article warns, and continues:

When voices of apprehension and opposition to the "bill" grew louder, the Japanese authorities said Japan would "not become a military power that threatens other countries."

This is a lie to conceal its intrigue for overseas aggression.

The Japanese Government authorities must renounce the scheme of overseas expansion and take the road of peace.

Kim Il-song Receives Martyrs' Families 20 Jun

SK2006152892 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1509 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 20 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the bereaved families of anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs who took part in the glorious anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, contributed to implementing the historical cause of national liberation and devoted their precious lives to the road of the arduous revolution.

Present on the occasion were Kang Sok-sung, director of the Party History Institute of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and other officials concerned.

Bereaved families presented a bunch of fragrant flowers to President Kim Il-song and wished him good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song, retrospecting with deep emotions the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs who died with bravery, while heroically fighting in the sacree anti-Japanese war to accomplish the cause of national liberation, highly estimated their shining feats for the motherland and the people.

Saying that the noble revolutionary spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs will remain forever in the hearts of our people, he taught that a country of happy people, our own style ever-victorious socialist system centered on the popular masses, for which the martyrs so longed, has been set up in the fatherland through their heroic struggle.

The entire people are singleheartedly united around the party and the whole society forms a grand revolutionary family whose members help and lead each other forward, so that we are now firmly defending and glorifying our socialism, not shaking in any raging wind, he said, and taught: This is the greatest success and pride of our party and people.

The bereaved families of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs should educate the rising generations in the Paekta revolutionary spirit with which the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners undauntedly fought with a firm conviction of victory, make them uphold the party's leadership with loyalty and thus creditably accomplish our revolutionary cause which started in the thick forest of Mt. Paektu.

The bereaved families of anti-Japanese rvolutionary martyrs extended the highest honour and warmest thanks to President Kim Il-song who gave an eternal life to the revolutionary forerunners who passed away on the way of revolution and is looking after the bereaved families in his bosom of love with his noble revolutionary obligation.

They were filled with a burning determination to hasten the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause of chuche under the leadership of our glorious party to the last moment of their lives, modelling after the loyalty of the revolutionary forerunners who fought holding the great leader in esteem as the centre of unity, the centre of leadership.

President Kim Il-song gave a lunch for the bereaved families of anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs today.

Kim Il-song Meets Chuche Institute Leader

SK2306114592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 23 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received visiting Secretary General of the Asian Regional Institute of the Chuche Idea Govind Narain Srivastava and his party.

Present on the occasion was Hwang Chang-yop.

The guests presented a floral basket and gift to President Kim Il-song and wished him good health and long life.

He expressed thanks for that and had a talk with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He arranged a luncheon for them.

Kim Chong-il Thanks Chongpyong County Workers

SK2006110592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 20 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent a message of thanks to the party members and working people in Chongpyong County, South Hamgyong Province, who have successfully completed the construction of the Munchang reservoir.

The message highly praised the party members, youth shock-brigade members and working people in Chongpyong County who have greatly contributed to the fulfilment of the task of irrigation set forth in the rural theses and increase of agricultural production by moving earth of hundreds of thousands of cubic metres, building 600-metre dam and completing a water drawing tower and other structures by effecting collective innovations.

Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to Kim Sung-ho, a security man of the Hwangju County Security Department in North Hwanghae Province, and his family.

Kim Sung-ho has discharged his mission and duty as a defender of the people's happiness at a post for nearly 20 years and made all his children coop farmers in the native place and helped them take the lead in agricultural production.

After hearing about him, Comrade Kim Chong-il highly praised him as an admirable man and sent thanks to him and his family.

South Dependence on Outside Forces Viewed

SK2106104292 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0815 GMT 21 Jun 92

["South Side Must Renounce Bad Habit of Dependence on Outside Forces"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 21 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities must renounce dependence on foreign forces and make a bold decision to get the U.S. Forces withdrawn from South Korea, not allow its domination and interference, accept an inspection of the nuclear weapons and bases of the U.S. troops in South Korea and show their willingness to make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free, peace zone, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

Maintaining an independent stand is an indispensable requisite to a proper implementation of the North-South agreement, the article notes, and continues:

What is important in maintaining the independent stand is to discard the concept of confrontation of the old era and take the stance of trusting fellow countrymen and relying on the independent forces of the nation, not depending on foreign forces.

The South Korean authorities, however, have not yet discarded the bad habit of depending on and following the United States but are continuing reckless war exercises against the North together with the U.S. Forces, begging for permanent occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialist aggression forces even after the effectuation of the North-South agreement and the joint denuclearisation declaration.

The South Korean authorities are raising outcries over "the delay of nuclear inspection" of the North and the South in order to justify their treacherous dependence on foreign forces and policy of confrontation and are trying to mislead public opinion, claiming that the responsibility for it rests with the North. This is a shameless act reminding us of a thief crying "stop thief!"

As for the North side's proposal to take a joint step against Japan's intention for nuclear armament, it is to completely remove also the daily growing threat from without and thus defend the security of the nation and peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world since the North and the South agreed upon the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula.

Yet the South side is still taking a flunkeyist traitorous stand of attaching more importance to collusion and tieup with foreign forces than to reconciliation and unity with fellow countrymen.

All the provocative clamor raised by the South Korean authorities in league with foreign forces is an intentional act to reduce the North-South agreement and joint declaration on denuclearisation into mere sheets of paper and bring the North-South relations back to the original point of distrust and confrontation. This is an undisguised perfidy to the North and a vicious challenge to the nation's desire for reunification.

Daily Views 'Lifeblood in Socialist Society'

SK2106085092 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0830 GMT 21 Jun 92

["Idea Is Lifeblood in Socialist Society, Says NODONG SINMUN"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 21 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN in an article today stresses that idea is the lifeblood in socialist society.

Noting that idea is consciousness reflecting man's demand and interests and the decisive factor that regulates all his acts, the author of the article says:

That idea is the lifeblood in socialist society means that the destiny and future of the socialist society are determined by idea.

Socialist society is a society based on collectivism and its destiny is decided by the socialist idea the essential content of which is collectivism. When the popular masses are armed with the socialist idea and united as one on its basis, socialism will emerge victorious, but when they yield to ideological malady socialism will fall to ailing and suffer setback.

The socialist idea is the lifeblood of the socialist society because it makes the popular masses true masters of society and gives inexhaustible vital energy to society and firmly unites them as one.

The essence of the socialist idea is collectivism and the popular masses can achieve solid ideological unity only on the basis of the collectivist idea.

Heinous and persistent in the imperialist offensive to destroy socialism is the ideological and cultural offensive against the socialist countries. To firmly prepare the masses of the people ideologically so that they may wage a principled struggle with heightened vigilance against the ideological and cultural infiltration of the imperialists is one of the most important requirements in the whole period of building socialism.

South Korea

North Agrees To Attend Next JNCC Session 30 Jun

SK2306032492 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The sixth round of the Joint Nuclear Control Commission [JNCC] to negotiate North-South mutual inspection will be held on 30 June.

Choe U-chin, the North side's chairman of the JNCC, today sent a telephone message to Kong No-myong, his South side counterpart, that says the North side will attend the JNCC meeting proposed by our side.

Military Site Inspection Talks Slated

SK2306051992 Seoul YONHAP in English 0457 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 23 (OANA-YONHAP)—The inter-Korean Joint Nuclear Control Commission (JNCC) will meet on June 30 at the truce village of Panmunjom for Sixth Round of talks on mutual nuclear inspection, officials said Tuesday.

Choe U-chin, North Korean-side chairman of the JNCC, sent a telephone message to his South Korean counterpart Kong No-myong agreeing to meet on June 30, officials said.

The commission, inaugurated last March, is the negotiation body for determining inter-Korean mutual nuclear inspection regime and for overseeing the inspections once they start.

Last JNCC meeting was on May 27, and its failure broke the understood agreement between the two sides that the regime would be settled by the end of May and the first inspection conducted by mid-June.

Next week's meeting will discuss inclusion of military installations in the inspection and challenge inspection that would open up suspected facilities with just 24-hour notice.

North's Call for Anti-Japanese Effort Declined

SK2306060292 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0518 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The government reportedly has decided against the North side's proposal that the North and South make public the unlawfulness of the Ulsa Five-Point Treaty and Chongmi Seven-Point Treaty and adopt a joint resolution at the North-South Exchange and Cooperation Committee to call on Japan to officially apologize.

A government official said: The government has not yet taken an official stand on this issue; however, because Japan and Korea established diplomatic relations in 1965 on the premise that the Korea-Japan Protectorate Treaty was invalid, the government considers it unnecessary to make another declaration on the same subject.

Academic Joint Discussion Possible

SK2306081092 Seoul YONHAP in English 0753 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 23 (YONHAP)—South Korea is likely to reject a North Korean proposal to demand a formal apology from Japan for illegally annexing Korea in 1910, a government official said Tuesday.

The South Korean Government does not see any need for taking up the issue again as South Korea and Japan normalized bilateral relations in 1965 on the premise that the annexation treaty lacked validity, he said.

The issue, however, could be discussed on the academic level between South and North Korea after a supplementary protocol on exchanges and cooperation was concluded, he added.

The official said the government would convey its position to northern officials concerned at or before Friday's meeting of the South-North Exchanges and Cooperation Subcommittee.

North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk, in a message to his South Korean counterpart, Chong Won-sik, suggested Monday the two sides take up the matter as an urgent issue at the South-North Exchanges and Cooperation Subcommittee meeting.

Government Sole Channel To Deal With North

SK2006043192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0247 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 20 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Choe Ho-chung has told a religious newspaper that the establishment of a "pan-religious and pan-denominational" religious group by South and North Korea is desirable to promote religious exchanges.

Choe suggested the group be called the Inter-Korean Council of Religious Exchanges.

But in the interview with a Korean Catholic newspaper, the PYONG HWA (PEACE) SIMUN, Choe said the negotiations with North Korea should be conducted by the government.

An article based on the interview is to be published Sunday [21 June].

Choe, who is also national unification minister, reaffirmed that the government will be the sole channel for contacts with North Korea.

"It is difficult to expect North Korea to allow complete religious freedom," Choe said. "But an opportunity could arise in North Korea for liberalization of religion. Religious activities will then spread widely in the North regardless of government intentions."

Choe added that religious issues would be discussed between the two Koreas once they formed the subcommittee for social and cultural exchanges in September.

Kim Yong-sam Comments on N-S Nuclear Issue

SK2006062892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0511 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 20 (YONHAP)—Kim Yong-sam, presidential candidate of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], Saturday said inter-Korean nuclear inspections should be realized under any circumstances.

After receiving a report from Kong No-myong, southern-side chairman of the Joint Nuclear Control Commission, Kim said mutual inspections were needed to dispel suspicion about nuclear arms development by North Korea.

"If North Korea comes to possess nuclear weapons, Japan would own them too, leading to the unfortuante phenomenon of nuclear proliferation all over the world let alone the Korean peninsula and Northeast Asia," Kim said.

The DLP executive chairman said it was important to raise the issue in international forums such as the July summit of the Group of Seven industrialized countries and the United Nations and seek better international cooperation for the resolution of it.

"Particularly, we should make diplomatic efforts to encourage China to play a positive role," he said.

China, a staunch ally of North Korea, does not have diplomatic relations with South Korea.

Kong said that unless the nuclear issue was resolved, the South would have no choice but to withhold private-level inter-Korean exchanges.

He added, however, that the government would carry on humanitarian exchanges with the North, such as the planned exchange of hometown visitors and performers, to keep inter-Korean dialogue alive.

No Tae-u: 'Extreme Regrets' Over Election Delay

SK2206054592 Seoul YONHAP in English 0520 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u on Monday expressed "extreme regrets" at not being able to hold local elections this year as planned.

This, his aides said, is virtually a presidential apology opposition leaders demand for the delay.

No convened a meeting of presidential secretaries and called for an early opening of the 14th National Assembly to handle the revision to the local election law, his spokesman Kim Hak-chun said after the meeting.

He expressed strong regrets at not holding the local elections this year, regardless of what the reasons were, the spokesman said.

Mayoral and gubernatorial elections were planned for this year, but No postponed them, saying the country cannot handle the economic repercussions from four elections in a single year.

General elections were held last March, and voters go to the polls again in December in a presidential election.

No's aides claimed that what he told the meeting constitutes an apology demanded by opposition camps for the unilateral decision for the postponement of the elections.

"The revised bill on local elections was submitted to the National Assembly last June 5 but it is left unreviewed because the assembly has not yet opened," the president was quoted as saying.

Opposition camps refuse to participate in the assembly, demanding that No carry out the local elections as planned.

Kim Tae-chung Urges Plan Disclosure

SK2206092892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0914 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (YONHAP)—Kim Tae-chung, co-head of the opposition Democratic Party, said Monday if President No Tae-u concedes his "mistake" for not holding the local elections this year as planned, the president should now disclose a plan to carry out the elections.

The opposition leader was commenting on the "deep regrets" expressed by President No earlier in the day at not being able to hold the mayoral and gubernatorial elections as scheduled.

"President No said he regrets not holding the elections within the legal deadline. If he thus admitted to the mistake, he should now dislcose a plan to hold the elections," he said.

Kim said his party couldn't compromise over the local election issue under any circumstances.

"However, we do not link the election issue to whether we would attend the National Assembly," Kim said. "We are still urging president No to abide by law and we will decide the time of our floor attendance depending on the ruling party's attitude."

Democratic Party spokesman Chang Sok-hwa said in a comment on the presidential regret, "any regret not accompanied by the disclosure of a definite plan to hold the elections cannot but be an utterance making mockery of the people."

Meanwhile, Chongwadae spokesman Kim Hak-chun said President No's remarks about the local elections were not an apology. "It would be safe to accept the remarks as a regret expressed to the people," Kim said.

Soon after the remarks were made, some presidential aides said No's remarks might well be taken as an "apology" demanded by opposition parties for unilaterally deciding to putting off the elections.

DP Seeks To Hold Local Elections as Scheduled

Kim Tae-chung To Appeal to Court

SK1706055692 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 17 Jun 92 p 2

[By staff reporter Sin Yong-pae]

[Text] Kim Tae-chung, the presidential candidate of the largest opposition Democratic Party [DP], said yesterday that his party would appeal to the Constitution Court if the government fails to hold the second round of local elections as scheduled.

He voiced opposition to the government's move to link inter-Korean economic exchanges with the settlement of the North Korea nuclear issue.

Kim said that under the Constitution, people can appeal to the special court when they suffer because of the government's failure to abide by laws.

"To hold local elections as stipulated by the law can't be a subject of compromise," Kim told reporters.

The law stipulates that two polls to pick local administration chief be held by the end of June.

But President No Tae-u early this year announced the postponement of the local elections, citing economic reasons.

Controversy over the timing of the polls between the ruling and opposition parties has erupted, delaying the opening of the new National Assembly whose four-year term started May 30.

The DP leader, Kim renewed his position that the local polls should be held simultaneously with the presidential election.

But the ruling party wants to hold the elections in 1995 because of a possible burden on the national economy. The first round of local elections was held last year to elect assemblies in cities and provincial areas.

The Democratic Liberal Party contends that failure to conduct the elections this year would not be a violation of the Local Self- Governing Law.

Kim said he would not meet with President No unless he pledges to hold the polls this year.

"If President No does not abide by the law, the cannot finish his term with success," Kim said. No's single five-year term ends next February and he is constitutionally barred from reelection.

On inter-Korean affairs, Kim urged the government to push for mutual nuclear inspections together with economic cooperation.

"I understand that the government's call for inter-Korean nuclear inspections is reasonable, but the decision to suspend economic cooperation with North Korea until the nuclear issue is settled should be reconsidered," he said.

Asserting that the nuclear inspections should not cover all military bases, the DP leader said the inspections should be limited to Yongbyon and other suspected areas in North Korea.

Unification National Party [UNP] leader Chong Chu-yong also said that the polls for local administration chiefs must be held this year in order to prevent an administration-driven campaign in the presidential election.

Chong said that he could meet with President No and DP leader Kim Tae-chung and, if necessary, ruling party presidential candidate Kim Yong-sam to discuss the local poll issue.

UNP officials said that a meeting of party representatives must be preceded by working-level contacts.

Chong called on the ruling party to accept the opposition demand concerning the timing of the local polls to make it possible for the Assembly to convene before the end of June.

Party Spokesman on Possible Action

SK2006044592 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Jun 92 p 2

[By staff reporter Sin Yong-pae]

[Text] The largest opposition Democratic Party [DP] said yesterday it would boycott all negotiations with the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] unless the government pledges to hold the second round of local elections by the end of this year.

The party also demanded that President No Tae-u offer an apology to the public for his postponement of the two elections to pick local administration chiefs which were originally planned for the first part of this year.

"Unless our demands are met, out party will not come to the negotiating table," said party spokesman Chang Sok-hwa after a meeting of key party officials.

Before discussing the opening of the new National Assembly, Chang said President No should abide by the law to hold the local polls by the end of June.

The DP urged that the polls be held simultaneously with the presidential election, saying the local autonomy system is the main pillar for democracy and parliamentary politics.

Kim Chong-kil, a member of the party's Supreme Council, reportedly chided party leader Kim Tae-chung for his recent remarks that he would not seek impeachment of President No for his alleged violation of the local election law.

Kim Tae-chung stressed that what he said at a foreign correspondents' club Wednesday was his private opinion, party sources said. Kim said he intends to follow through any action his party takes.

Spokesman Chang said his party's decision on whether to boycott the opening of the Assembly or not hinges on the government stance.

DP floor leader Yi Chol told reporters that the issue of local polls is something which must be settled before the opening of the parliament.

Yi said Kim Tae-chung would not meet with President No unless he pledges to carry out the polls by the end of this year.

The DP's hard-line stance came amid reports that the party was considering agreeing to the opening of the Assembly and seeking parliamentary negotiations over the controversial local polls.

Kim Tae-chung Wednesday eased his tough stance by saying he had never said that his party would boycott the opening of the Assembly.

Political observers said the party's abrupt change of position apparently stemmed from a judgment that popular opinions are in favor of conducting the local polls before the year is out.

Floor leaders of the three major parties again met Thursday but failed to narrow their differences over the timing of the local polls. Top officials of the rival parties also huddled Monday, but only agreed to hold a TV debate on the issue.

Party officials were also reported to have met behind the scenes to discuss the local poll issue.

The opposition alleges that senior local government officials would interfere in the presidential election in order to help elect the ruling party candidate. At present, all local administration chiefs are appointed by the President.

The ruling party, meanwhile, says that the polls should be delayed to 1995, saying that four elections in a year would aggravate the current economic conditions. Parliamentary elections were held in March and the presidential vote is expected in December.

Some reports said that he ruling party might change its mind to conduct the elections in 1993.

Suit Filed Against No Tae-u, Cabinet

SK2006063892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0546 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 20 (YONHAP)—The main opposition Democratic Party [DP] filed a suit in the Constitution Court Saturday against President No Tae-u and his cabinet for failing to hold local elections as required by law.

The DP decided Friday [19 June] to suspend its negotiations with the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] on opening the 14th National Assembly, intensifying the degree of confrontation between the ruling and opposition parties.

The DP, in the suit, alleged that by postponing elections for provincial governors and mayors the No administration violated the basic right of the people to take part in government. It sought the ruling of the Constitution Court in the name of Rep. Pak Sil and 58 others who had been preparing to run in the local elections.

The DP charges that the government violated the election law, which requires it to hold the local elections by the end of June after posting the public notice by June 12.

The government and the ruling party postponed the election until the first half of 1995, citing economic and social burdens. The opposition parties have refused to help open the National Assembly unless the government and the DLP agree to hold the local elections this year, with the presidential election in December at the latest.

As negotiations to open the Assembly hit the snag, the DLP was reported Saturday to be contemplating going it alone, raising the specter of further confrontation with the opposition parties.

The Democratic Party has scheduled a general meeting of its representatives next Tuesday to finalize its decision on the issues of local elections and the Assembly's opening.

The prospects for opposition lawmakers to attend the opening session are bleak as a group of hardliners is insisting on a boycott as long as the ruling party does not show flexibility with regard to local elections.

Some party insiders said, however, the DP leadership, led by Kim Tae-chung, could decide to attend the National Assembly because it could very well be accused of violating the National Assembly law if it does not cooperate in opening the Assembly before June 28.

The National Assembly is required to hold its opening session within 28 days of its official inauguration.

Kim Yong-tae, the DLP's floor leader, indicated that the ruling party would open the Assembly alone when he said "the DLP has to abide by the law alone, if the opposition parties do not."

The DP leadership also does not want to create a bad party image in this presidential election year by taking a negative attitude toward the opening of the National Assembly, party sources said.

Meanwhile, the ruling party said that the DP's suit against the government did not deserve deliberation by the court.

DLP spokesman Pak Hui-tae said Saturday that the government's responsibility to carry out elections is imposed by an additional clause of the law on autonomous local governments and not by the nation's Constitution.

Therefore, the government's decision to postpone the local elections was "nonperformance of governmental authority," which Pak insisted did not constitute the subject of a suit at the Constitution Court.

The DP raised the suit, Pak went on, not to seek a court ruling on the matter, but to damage the image of the ruling party by bringing up the issue to the level of constitutional violation.

Kim Yong-sam, Kim Tae-chung at Top of Poll

SK2006140392 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 19 Jun 92 p 2

[Text] Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung outdistanced the other presidential candidates in the voters' popularity so much that the next presidential election will very probably be a competition between the two Kims unless something unusual happens.

While the two Kims ranked first and second for the people's support, they also ranked first and second in the "most hated candidate" category, thus demonstrating that "the higher the mountain, the deeper its valleys."

According to a poll conducted of 1,000 male and female voters across the country on 8 June, by JOINS, an opinion survey organization for WOLGAN CHUNGANG and CHUNGANG ILBO, the two Kims invariably ranked first and second for people's support regardless of the number of the candidates in contention. The poll asked the participants for whom they will vote if the presidential election were held tomorrow, and the results are carried in the July issue of WOLGAN CHUNGANG.

The particulars of the result of the survey are as follows. When the two Kims and Chong Chu-yong enter the race, Kim Yong-sam will win 36.2 percent of votes, Kim Tae-chung 25.1 percent of votes, and Chong Chu-yong 13.5 percent. If candidate Pak Chan-chong is added to the list of candidates, Kim Yong-sam will win 33.2 percent of votes, Kim Tae-chung 21.3 percent, Pak Chan-chong 15.2 percent, and Chong Chu-yong 10.2 percent. If lawmaker Yi Chong-chan is added to the list, Kim Yong-sam will win 30.5 percent of votes, Kim Tae-chung 18.7 percent, Yi Chong-chan 14.7 percent, Pak Chan-chong 10.1 percent, and Chong Chu-yong 7.5 percent. If only the two Kims compete, which is unlikely, Kim Yong-sam will win 41.4 percent, Kim Tae-chung 27.7 percent, and 31.0 percent of the participants withheld their response.

Therefore, the two Kims' predominance is unquestionable at least for the present, and we can anticipate that Mr. Kim Yong-sam will have the edge on Mr. Kim Tae-chung. It is surprising that candidate Chong Chu-yong ranked last in all three scenarios of three, four, and five candidates competing. The surprising change in the rate of support for candidate Chong Chu-yong may have been influenced more or less by his shocking remark on allowing the communist party in the ROK, as the poll was taken shortly after he said this.

As expected, the two Kims scored the highest favor and disfavor rating in Kyongsang and Honam Provinces. Because of this regional patriotism, to the question "Who do you disfavor most?" Mr. Kim Yong-sam ranked first (18.9 percent) and Mr. Kim Tae-chung second (18.1 percent). Either of these two candidates, when elected, will have to face the task of easing regional antagonism after the election.

The popularity of the two Kims in the regions other than the Kyongsang and Honam provinces was as follows: Mr. Kim Yong-sam was slightly ahead of Mr. Kim Tae-chung in Taejon and South Chungchong Province with Mr. Kim Tae-chung slightly leading in Inchon and Kyonggi region. In Seoul, the two Kims rated about the same in popularity.

As for the rating by age groups, Mr. Kim Yong-sam was more popular among the older voters, whereas Mr. Kim Tae-chung was popular among the 40's, 20's, 50's, and 30's in that order.

While the degree of the voters' education had little to do with the degree of support for Mr. Kim Tae-chung and Mr. Chong Chu-yong, the voters with less education supported Kim Yong-sam, and the voters with more education supported Mr. Pak Chan-chong and Yi Chong-chan.

This is the first of the six polls the WOLGAN CHUNGANG will take before the presidential election scheduled for December. The participants in the poll were selected from the national telephone directory with equal intervals between the names listed in the directory. Therefore, it is possible that opinions are expressed by more of the middle income families having telephones.

Candidates Seek Former President's Favor

SK2206093392 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 18 Jun 92 p 3

[Article by reporter Kim Chin: "Why Do They Frequently Knock on the Door of Former President Chon Tu-hwan's House in Yonhui-tong?"]

[Text] A tug of war between presidential candidates of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] Kim Yong-sam and the Democratic Party [DP] Kim Tae-chung is heating up considerably behind the scenes. The two Kims are now trying to talk with Mr. Chon, who was once both men's sworn political rival, relatively quietly, fearing that their open act of embracing him could backfire with the public.

Amid such moves, former President Chon is cautiously and visibly expanding his radius of political action. Not only is he active in meeting with lawmakers of both ruling and opposition parties, he also seems to be taking all necessary steps to restore his political rights and regain his sullied reputation.

Candidates Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung are attempting to improve their relations with Mr. Chon in order to use his influence in garnering votes. Candidate Kim Yong-sam has no choice but to highly appreciate Mr. Chon's presence in uniting the pan-ruling circles—his most pressing task. Candidate Kim Tae-chung finds it necessary to attack [kongnyak] Mr. Chon, who represented the Fifth Republic's conservatives, to show that he is capable of reconciling with conservative forces

The two Kims had begun sending conciliatory messages to Mr. Chon since last year, according to Mr. Chon's close associates. Former President Chon, too, has been responding favorably to them.

Candidate Kim Yong-sam established a considerably deep channel for dialogue with Mr. Chon, even before the general elections, and has kept it in place ever since. He reportedly had a very meaningful conversation with Mr. Chon when he visited him at his residence in Yonhui-tong shortly after he had been nominated as the ruling party's presidential candidate.

Mr. Chon is said to have quite candidly explained to candidate Kim Yong-sam core points of disputes among problems between himself and President No Tae-u and politely asked Kim Yong-sam to try to avoid mediating between them for reconciliation. Candidate Kim is said to have expressed broad sympathy for Mr. Chon's explanation. In particular, the two are said to have agreed that "decisiveness" is one of the most important moral characters a leader needs to carry with him.

The two are said to have confirmed that they have two things in common—candidness and a tendency to become earnest and enthusiastic about anything they do—and made an unexpectedly favorable impression on each other. Mr. Chon is also said to have explained to candidate Kim how to unite the pan-ruling circles in the presidential election and ways to raise election funds, which is what he coached candidate No Tae-u on for the 1987 presidential election.

Candidate Kim Tae-chung and his associates are also said to have secretly considered a blitzkrieg visit to Yonhui-tong shortly after he had been nominated as the presidential candidate.

Candidate Kim Tae-chung actively encouraged three DP lawmakers, who graduated from the Korea Military Academy [KMA], to arrange a dinner with Mr. Chon. He asked DP Co-chairman Kim Sang-hyon, who was elected in the electoral district covering Yonhui-tong, to cultivate an intimate friendship with the former president. When the former president's second son was getting married on 25 April, Chairman Kim indirectly offered congratulations by sending flowers.

Chong Chu-yon, another presidential candidate and chairman of the Unification National Party [UNP], also is trying now to get information indirectly about the former president.

Following the general elections, UNP lawmakers such as Kim Chong-nam and Chong Chu-il, also known as Yi Chu-il, and former lawmakers Pong Tu-wan and Yom Kil-chong paid visits to Yonhui-tong. According to those close to the former president, the UNP recently has cautiously sounded out how Mr. Chon "thinks of chairman Chong Chu-yong and of the UNP" through a few channels.

Mr. Chon, according to his close associates, believes the founding of the UNP was a matter of free choice in a democratic society, but Chairman Chong's words that a communist party must be tolerated were wrong.

The latest of former President Chon Tu-hwan's activities was a 16 June golf meeting. That day, 26 members of the Mugunghwa [Rose of Sharon] Association, composed of cabinet ministers who served under Prime Minister No Sin-yong, attended the golf meeting.

President No Tae-u, who has still maintained uncomfortable relations with former President Chon Tu-hwan, was scheduled to preside over a meeting that afternoon to give letters of appointment to members of the DLP Executive Committee. Five members of the committee, however, played golf with former President Chon Tu-hwan. This shows a shift of power in the ruling circles.

Former President Chon Tu-hwan reportedly made meaningful remarks that day.

He said: "When I was visiting the United States after leaving the presidency, former President Nixon told me that 'it took me [Nixon] seven years to rehabilitate myself politically' and that 'it will take you three to four years to do so.' At that time, I did not pay any attention to his remarks because his situation and mine were different: He left office without finishing his term (because of the Watergate incident), and I left office after finishing my term. His prediction, however, has proved to be roughly correct."

This means that Chon Tu-hwan declared his "rehabilitation." He left the presidency approximately four years ago.

Former President Chon appears to control the speed of his own comeback.

On the evening of 7 June, Chon Tu-hwan met with the three DP lawmakers who are graduates of the KMA: Chang Chun-ik (14th KMA class), Na Pyong-son (14th KMA class), and Yim Pok-chin (17th KMA class). During a dinner with them, Chon Tu- hwan very favorably assessed DP President Kim Tae-chung for not trying to prevent him from returning to his house in Yonhui-tong.

When the three people asked Chon Tu-hwan, via An Hyon-tae (17th KMA class), former chief presidential security guard, what he thinks of their plan to join the DP, he said: "You have no reason to hesitate to join that party simply because it is Kim Tae-chung's. Make a choice."

People around Chon Tu-hwan now say that Chon's favorable remarks on the DP are "mere wishing-well remarks and have no political significance." DP people, however, say: Chon Tu-hwan, though he belongs to the ruling circles, made favorable remarks on Kim Tae-chung. This is significant.

As he did during that day's dinner with the three DP lawmakers, Chon Tu-hwan reportedly said on various private occasions: "As a former president, I want to help in running the state."

He reportedly meant to say: "I want to give advice to whoever becomes president using my experiences."

No Tae-u Studies Plan To Address UN, Meet Bush

SK2306094692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0843 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 23 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u is studying a plan to address the 47th United Nations General Assembly in late September, presidential spokesman Kim Hak-chun said Tuesday.

"If and when President No attends the U.N. Assembly to make a speech, he would use the occasion to have summit talks with U.S. President George Bush and the heads of state of several other major nations," the spokesman said.

Such summit talks would take place in New York where the U.N. Headquarters is located, he said.

If President No actually addresses the assembly, it would be his third speech before the world organization after those of 1989 and 1991, and his second as the head of state of korea as a U.N. member nation following last year's.

Nuclear Inspections To Improve EC Ties

SK2206005192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0038 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—The 12 member nations of European Community (EC) have reaffirmed that Pyongyang's acceptance of inter-Korean nuclear inspection is a condition to improving their ties with North Korea, Foreign Ministry officials said Monday.

The European Political Cooperation (EPC) Political Committee has called, at a meeting June 17-18 in Lisbon, for effective International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and inter-Korean nuclear inspections, saying they are prerequisites to better relations with North Korea.

The committee took up the issue at the recommendation of the EPC Asian Working Group, which met June 4 in Brussels.

ROK Envoy Assesses IAEA Board Meeting

SK2006090892 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 20 Jun 92 p 1

[By correspondent Kang Pyong-tae from Vienna]

[Text] The Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] adjourned its six-day regular meeting, which started on 14 June, on 19 June. Before adjourning, the IAEA Board of Governors decided to raise the issue of the status of North Korea's implementation of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord again at its September regular meeting as a main agenda item.

ROK Ambassador Yi Si-yong said: "Upon confirming that suspicion about North Korea's nuclear development had not been dispelled yet, the recent IAEA Board meeting decided to deal with this issue as an agenda item at its September meeting after seeing how the inspection develops. It also emphasized the need for North-South mutual nuclear inspection. These are the successful results we attained at the meeting."

Previously, North Korean Ambassador O Chang-nim, in his speech at the Board meeting on 18 June, emphasized that North Korea would continue to cooperate sincerely with the IAEA in the inspection. He revealed at the same time, however, that the construction of the radiochemical laboratory in Yongbyon in question would continue.

Ambassador O then insisted that "North-South mutual nuclear inspection should be discussed at the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee."

Agreement With SRV To Promote Bilateral Ties

SK2206084692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0816 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and Vietnam agreed Monday to nurture bilateral cooperation in all fields through liaison offices to be exchanges next month.

Visiting Vietnamese Assistant Foreign Minister Le Duc Cang and South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok agreed to "bury the past and look toward the future" in promoting bilateral cooperation, officials said.

Cang arrived in Seoul Saturday and is to meet with South Korean economic and business leaders before departing on June 25.

South Korea and Vietnam are yet to normalize ties.

Yi explained that his ministry will send three staffers to Hanoi in mid-July to prepare for the office opening. Cang said his government will be sending its officials soon.

On recognizing assets and property held in each other's country, they agreed that they should follow international laws.

Seoul is considering giving back the old Vietnamese Embassy site used before South Vietnam was communized. The site could be used as the new liaison office, officials here said.

Yeltsin To Meet With President No Tae-u 16 Sep

SK2106033992 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 21 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] Russian President Boris Yeltsin will make a state visit to South Korea for a summit meeting with President No Tae-u Sept. 16, informed sources said yesterday.

According to the sources, Yeltsin is expected to provide the South Korean government with all obtained evidence pertaining to the bombing of a Korean Air passenger jetliner in 1983.

Yeltsin and his government are making utmost efforts to clarify the circumstances under which more than 200 civilians, mostly South Koreans, were killed over the air space of Sakhalin, they explained.

He will also formally conclude a bilateral cooperative agreement between the two countries on the basis of mutual respect and the attainment of a full market economy, the sources said.

"There has been an increasing climate of thaw between South Korea and Russia and the visit will serve to further consolidate mutual cooperation in various fields," the sources elaborated.

During the visit, Yeltsin will deliver a speech to the National Assembly, making him the first head of Russia to do so.

In all likelihood, Yeltsin will issue a joint statement with No on the need for North Korea to comply with the mutual inspection of nuclear facilities, they said.

In order for proper arrangements to be made, the sources explained, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok will meet with relevant Russian authorities during his scheduled visit to three CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States) states beginning Saturday.

Exchanges between the two countries in the fields of science and technology have been brisk and Yeltsin's visit is expected to fuel the mood for mutual existence, they added.

Seoul, Russia Open Talks on Amity Pact in Moscow

SK2206024692 Seoul YONHAP in English 0108 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and Russia open working-level negotiations on an amity pact Monday in Moscow.

The two countries are expected to sign the pact here in September, when Russian President Boris Yeltsin visits Seoul, the Foreign Ministry said Monday. Seoul and Moscow normalized ties in September 1990.

South Korean President No Tae-u and former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev agreed at a summit last year to conclude the friendship pact.

The pact is to include clauses expressing Russia's "regrets" over the downing of a South Korean passenger plane by a Soviet fighter in 1983, according to officials here.

The incident killed all 269 people aboard.

It is also to include measures for promoting economic and political cooperation.

Hahm Myong-chol, deputy director-general for treaties at the Foreign Ministry, heads the South Korean delegation to the June 22-26 talks. M. M. Bely [as received], first director for Asia and the Pacific at the Russian Foreign Ministry, is his counterpart.

Romanian Minister To Discuss Economic Cooperation

SK2206082792 Seoul YONHAP in English 0713 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—Romanian Assistant Foreign Minister Gheorghe Tinca arrived in Seoul Monday for a four-day visit.

Tinca will meet with business leaders to discuss Romanian companies' entry into South Korean market and possible bilateral cooperation projects.

He plans to study South Korea's election procedure and experience in economic development during his stay.

He came at the invitation of South Korean Assistant Foreign Minister Chang Man-sun.

South Korea and Romania normalized ties in March 1990.

PRC Allows 3 Firms To Open Branch Offices

SK2006071192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0634 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 20 (OANA-YONHAP)—China has given three more South Korean companies permission to open branch offices in Beijing, increasing the number from 16 to 19, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

The Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Ministry of China gave permits to Goldstar Co., Doosan Industrial Co. and Kolon International Corp. on June 15, according to the Ministry.

The permits reciprocate Korea's recent decision to give out multiple visas to Chinese businessmen resident in Seoul, Ministry officials said.

There are nine Chinese company branch offices in South Korea compared to now 19 South Korean firm branches throughout China. Fourteen are in Beijing, two in Dalien, two in Shanghai and one in Qingdao.

Seoul and Beijing do not have diplomatic relations but exchanged trade representatives early last year.

The two countries signed a trade pact last February and an investment guarantee agreement in May.

Bilateral trade amounted to 5.8 billion U.S. dollars last year while Korean investment in China tallied 83 million dollars.

Business Association Signs Agreement in Beijing

SK2306094292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0835 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 23 (YONHAP)—Small and Medium Industry Promotion Corp. (SMIPC) signed an industrial cooperation agreement with China International Cooperation Association of Small and Medium Enterprises (CICASME) in Beijing Tuesday.

The accord covers joint investments, technology exchange, introduction of partners, survey assistance, joint publication of data and co-hosting of investment briefings.

To promote these goals, exchanges of SMIPC and CICASME officials will be encouraged, the Association said.

The accord was signed by CICASME President Sheng Shuren and SMIPC President Kim Hyong-pae, who is visiting China, accompanied by an investment-survey team comprising officials from 19 small- and medium-sized enterprises.

Burma

SLORC, Opposition Meet on National Convention

BK2306075392 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0630 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] A coordination meeting for convening a national convention has opened at 0900 today in the meeting hall in the compound of the President's House on Ahlone Road.

The coordinatiion meeting was attended by Major General Myo Nyunt, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and chairman of the Steering Committee for holding coordination meeting on convening national convention; Brigadier General Myo Thant, deputy chairman of the Steering Committee and information minister; and members of the Steering Committee—U Aung Toe, chief justice; U Thaung Nyunt, director general of the Office of the Attorney General, representing U Tha Dun, attorney general; Brig. Gen. Than U, military judge advocate general; Brig. Gen. Tin Aye, military inspector general; Colonel Than Tun, deputy director from the Directorate of Defense Services Intelligence [DDSI]; Col. Ye Htut, director of the Defense Services Museum and Historical Research Institute; Lieutenant Colonel Than Tun, general staff officer grade-1, DDSI; U Aye Maung, director general, the Office of the Multiparty Democratic General Election Commission; U Aung Khin Tint, legal adviser of SLORC; U Thein Sein, official on special duty of SLORC; Col. Aung Thein, secretary of the steering committee and director of the Directorate of Public Relations and Psychological Warfare; U Myo Nyunt, joint secretary-1 and director general of the Office of the People's Assembly; and U Aung Nyunt, joint secretary-2 and deputy director of the Office of the People's Assembly.

Leading elected representatives of political parties present at the meeting were: U Aung Shwe, leader of the National League for Democracy [NLD] delegation and elected representative from Mayangon constituency-1; U Lwin, deputy NLD delegation leader and elected representative from Thongwa-1 constituency; and members ot the NLD delegation—U Nyunt Wai, Toungoo-2 constituency; U Than Tun, Taungtha-2 constituency; U Lun Tin, Moulmein-1 constituency; U Hla Pe, Moulmeingyun-1 constituency; U Saw Oo Reh, Phru-so constituency; U Kyaw Tun, Paletwa constituency; U Saw Aung, Monywa-2 constituency; U Hla Min, Kawthaung constituency; Dr. U Nyunt Sein, Chauk-2 constituency; U Tun Yi, Thandwe constituency; Duwa U Zaw Aung, Waingmaw constituency; Daw Nang Khin Htwe Myint, Pa-an-3 constituency; U Sai Yi Tip, Keng Tung-2 constituency.

The Shan Nationalities League for Democracy was represented at the meeting by: U Khun Tun Oo, Hsipaw-1 constituency, delegation leader; U Sai Hpa, Kyaukme-1 constituency; and members—U Sai Tha Aye, Namhkam constituency; U Sai Moe Kyi, Mong Pan constituency; U Sai Hsaung Hsi, Kyaukme-2 constituency; U Sai Tun Aung, Langhko constituency.

The National Unity Party was represented by: U M. Sin Sar, Nogmung constituency, delegation leader; U Maung Ohn, Prome-1 constituency; and U Thet Wai, Wakema-2 constituency, as member.

The Union Pa-o National Organization was represented by U San Hla, Hopong constituency.

The Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization was represented by U San Tha Aung, Kyauktaw-2 constituency.

The Shan State Kokang Democratic Party was represented by U Yankyin Maw, Kunlong constituency.

The La-hu National Development Party was represented by U Daniel Aung, Mong Ping constituency.

Dr. Hmu Tang, Thangtlang constituency, attended as an independent representative.

The first day session of the coordination meeting was adjourned at 1000.

Opposition Granted Free Discussion

BK2306091492 Hong Kong AFP in English 0900 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Bangkok, June 3 (AFP)—Burma's military rulers Tuesday assured opposition political leaders at a meeting here they would be able to discuss issues freely during the run-up to a constitutional convention, sources in Rangoon said.

The brief meeting was the first dialogue in two years between the generals and the politicians since the ruling junta began a crackdown on the opposition.

The Constitution Coordinating Committee met for about an hour at the President's House premises in Rangoon and heard an opening address by Major General Myo Nyunt, its chairman.

Radio Rangoon, in a broadcast monitored here, said the main opposition National League for Democracy (NLD) was represented by Aung Shwe, its chairman, and other leaders.

A Western resident of Rangoon reached by telephone from Bangkok said Nyunt "assured the political leaders that they will be able to discuss freely all issues, like who will be invited to the convention."

Nyunt then adjourned the meeting until June 30. Nyunt is the military commander of Rangoon and a senior member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), as the junta calls itself. He was joined by 14 other officers and civilian members of the government.

The 28 political leaders in attendance included 15 NLD members, six from the Shan Nationalities League for

Democracy, three from the pro-junta National Unity Party (NUP) and one from each of four smaller parties.

The government side is to report to the SLORC within a month on how to proceed with a national convention to draw up the new charter. The convention is expected to be held within four months.

SLORC announced the dialogue and convention in late April as steps to return Burma to democracy, but opposition leaders and analysts have said the moves are merely cosmetic and the generals have no plans to relinquish power. The military took over in September 1988 and crushed a nationwide pro-democracy movement, killing thousands of people.

The junta held national elections in May 1990 but refused to honor the NLD victory. Instead it scrapped the Constitution and cracked down on its opponents. The military began easing its hardline stance in late April when General Saw Maung retired as SLORC chairman and was replaced by General Than Shwe.

Tin U Inspects Reconstruction of Nanyun

BK2206121392 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Excerpts] To administer reorganization and reconstruction activities of Nanyun town in Sagaing Division, which was destroyed by armed KIA [Kachin Independence Army] terrorist insurgents on 5 june, Major General Tin U, secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], accompanied by Maj. Gen. Thein Win, commander in chief of the air force; Colonel Pe Thein, minister of health and education; Brigadier General Thaung Myint, minister of social welfare, relief, and resettlement; Brig. Gen. Kyaw Tint, joint adjutant general; Col. Saw Tun, commander of No. 102 Light Infantry Division; and responsible personnel left Yangon [Rangoon] by air at 1000 on 19 June and arrived at Myitkyina.

Maj. Gen. Tin U and entourage then left Myitkyina for Tanai by helicopters and were welcomed at Tanai Airport by Maj. Gen. Kyaw Ba, chairman of the Kachin State Law and Order Restoration Council and commander of the northern military command, and responsible personnel. Commander Maj. Gen. Kyaw Ba next explained about the regional situation at the local regiment's reception hall.

The secretary-2 then went to the Aung Thura Hall and met with defense services personnel, dependent family members, and employees and explained to them the political, economic, social, administration, and religious situation of the country and later cordially greeted them.

Maj. Gen. Tin U next inspected renovation and repair works being carried out on Tanai bridge and gave necessary instructions to responsible personnel concerned.

At 0730 on 20 June, the secretary-2 and entourage accompanied by the northern command commander inspected the Tanai Township hospital, the site for the road transport enterprise bus depot, and the site for the construction of a cantonment hospital and gave necessary instructions to responsible personnel.

The secretary-2, northern command commander, and ministers left for Nanyun by helicopters in the afternoon and arrived at 1500, where they were welcomed by responsible personnel.

At a meeting held at the Nanyun state middle school with employees and townspeople, Maj. Gen. Tin U said the reason for their coming was to see to the reorganization, reconstruction, and the food, clothing, and shelter needs of the people of Nanyun. He said that although the government is zealously trying to improve its construction and development endeavors, terrorist insurgents are still engaged in destructive activities. He then reassured the employees and townspeople of Nanyun that there was nothing about which to be worried and afraid. Continuing, the secretary-2 explained that divisional-level responsible personnel will be managing the reconstruction and rehabilitation activities and urged the employees and the townspeople to be cooperative.

Col. Pe Thein, minister for health and education, and Brig. Gen. Thaung Myint, minister for social welfare, relief, and resettlement, also explained their respective reconstruction programs. Next, Commander Maj. Gen. Kyaw Ba said utmost efforts will be made for the reconstruction of Nanyun and to fulfill the people's food, clothing, and shelter needs. The commander also urged the people to cooperate with the defense services and the departments concerned. [passage omitted]

The secretary-2 and ministers inspected the Myitkyina state general hospital at 0730 this morning. [passage omitted] Maj. Gen. Tin U and ministers later visited Myitkyina Degree College and were welcomed by responsible personnel. At a meeting held at the principal's office, Minister Col. Pe Thein stressed the need for the teachers to upgrade their teaching experience in their respective subjects.

Maj. Gen. Tin U next expressed his satisfaction over the plans made for the peaceful pursuit of education at the Myitkyina Degree College, and said that since the universities and colleges will be opened in the near future, an effective management system must be utilized for the stable and peaceful pursuit of education. The secretary-2 and the minister later answered questions raised by lecturers and teachers. [passage omitted]

The secretary-2 and ministers left Myitkyina by military aircraft at 1100, and after a brief stopover at Mandalay arrived back in Yangon at 1830.

Delegations View Regional Drug Control Programs

BK1806092592 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Jun 92

[Text] The Myanmar [Burma]-China Bipartite Coordination Committee for Cooperation in Drug Abuse Control held a meeting at 0900 today in the conference hall of the Yuzana House of the Myanmar Agriculture Service.

The meeting was attended by a Myanmar delegation led by Police Major General San Thein, secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control [CCDAC]; committee members; and senior departmental officials; Mr. Liu Wen, deputy secretary general of the PRC National Narcotic Control Commission and director general of the Criminal Investigation Department of the PRC, and delegation members; Mr. William (Bichner), regional director of the United Nations International Drug Control Program [UNDCP], and members of his delegation.

The two sides discussed in detail drug abuse control and regional development measures to be carried out during 1992 under the Myanmar-China Cooperation Accord. A similar meeting of the Myanmar-Thai Coordination Committee was held in the afternoon in the conference hall of the Yuzana House of the Myanmar Agriculture Service.

The meeting was attended by Thai Police General Chawalit Yotmani, secretary general of the the Drug Abuse Control Committee and Mr. Wirasak Futrakun, Thai ambassador to Myanmar; Police Maj. Gen. San Thein, secretary of the CCDAC; departmental officials; and representatives of the UNDCP.

The meeting discussed regional development and drug abuse control work to be carried out during 1992 under the Thai-Myanmar Cooperation Agreement.

Narcotics Delegations Depart

BK1906113192 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] A delegation from the People's Republic of China led by Mr. Yu Lei, secretary-general of the National Narcotics Control Committee and vice-minister of the Ministry of Public Security, currently in Myanmar [Burma], left Yangon [Rangoon] by air this morning.

Similarly, the UN delegation led by Mr. Giuseppe di Gennaro, executive director from the United Nations drug control program, and the Thai delegation led by Police General Chawalit Yotmani, secretary general of the Anti-Narcotic Board of Thailand, also left Yangon by air this evening.

The delegations were seen off at Yangon airport by Police Major General San Thein, secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control; Colonel Kyaw Win, chairman of Eastern Shan State Law and Order Restoration Council; U Ba Thwin, director general of the International Organizations and Economic Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Chinese Ambassador Mr. Liang Feng; Thai Ambassador Mr. Wirasak Futrakun; and responsible personnel.

The Thai delegation members visited the gems showroom of the Myanmar Gems Enterprise at Kabaaye Pagoda Road at 0900 in the morning.

Joint Venture With Singapore Firm Detailed

BK1906141592 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] The Ministry of Trade, using special powers under the provisions of the 1950 Special Companies Act, today issued Notification No. 7/92 on formation of a limited private joint venture company called Myanmar [Burma]-Borneo Company Limited. The notification was signed by U Win Naing, deputy trade minister.

The joint venture was set up with joint capital of the Medicines and Medical Supplies Enterprise; the Stationery, Printing, and Photography Equipment Enterprise; the Myanmar Department Store; the Inspection and Agency Enterprise; and the Borneo Company Limited of Singapore for sale and distribution of medical supplies, office equipment, stationery and photography equipment, printing work and for the tourist industry, engineering, and development of natural resources.

The notification contains names of first members of the joint venture, records and regulations of the joint venture, capital, and registration.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Foreign Minister: EAEC Compatible With APEC

BK2206105492 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 1005 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 22 (OANA/BERNAMA)—The East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) proposed by Malaysia is compatible to the existing Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said Monday.

APEC could be a good bridge between EAEC on the East Asian side and the North America Free Trade Area (NAFTA) on the American side, he told reporters after opening the sixth Asia-Pacific roundtable conference here.

"APEC will be a place where both sides meet and serve as a forum for both," he said.

The five-day conference organised by Malaysia's Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) is being attended by 121 diplomats, defence advisers, corporate leaders and strategic planners from the Asia-Pacific region.

Also present were Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai, and U.S. Undersecretary of Defence Paul Wolfowitz.

Investment Figures, Investor Confidence Viewed

BK1906070292 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0418 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 19 (OANA-BERNAMA)—In a gesture of confidence in Malaysia, investors poured in about U.S.$3.69 billion in 232 projects in the first five months of this year.

This represented a 41 percent increase over the U.S.$2.61 billion pumped in in the same period last year, international Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz said Thursday.

The achievement was remarkable in view of the fact that the number of applications to set up projects dropped to 232 from 251 in the corresponding period.

Moreover, foreign investment increased by more than two times to U.S.$2.43 billion from U.S.$1.15 billion in the first five months of 1991.

Local investment dropped slightly from U.S.$1.45 billion to U.S.$1.25 billion.

Of the 232 applications, 174 have Malaysian equity participation. Of these, 81 are wholly owned by Malaysians and 55 have majority Malaysian equity.

The minister was speaking at the ceremony to present the Iso 9000 certificate to computer peripheral products manufacturer Acer Technologies Co. Ltd. by Bureau Veritas Quality International (BVQI), the UK company in charge of administering the audit.

The Iso 9000 series certification is an internationally accepted standard that gives universal recognition and acknowledgement of product quality and the two-year-old company has scored a double first by being the first local firm to be awarded the coveted certificate.

It is also the first company in the world to achieve it with "zero discrepancy".

Rafidah said 80 of the 230 applications for the Iso 9000 series certification received (?by) the Standards and Industrial Research Institution of Malaysia (SIRIM) had been awarded certificates.

"It is important that Malaysian-made products meet international standards of quality to stay competitive. Therefore, more local manufacturers must improve their products to qualify for the Iso 9000 series certificates.

UMNO To Launch Membership Drive in Sabah

BK2106142892 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Sabah UMNO [United Malays National Organization] will launch a drive from next month to recruit up to 300,000 members to make it the state with the largest membership. UMNO Secretary General Datuk Mohamed Rahmat said the campaign was also aimed at attracting more bumiputera [indigenous] ethnic groups in Sabah such as the Kadazans, Dusuns, and Muruts to be party members as aspired by Party President Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed. Sabah UMNO now has 240,000 members, second largest after Johor with about 270,000 members.

Datuk Mohamed, who is also information minister, told reporters in Kota Kinabalu today that all divisions in the state had been directed to ensure the success of the campaign application forms for party membership had been sent to them. [sentence as heard] He said a directive had been issued that all branches accept applications from all bumiputera irrespective of their religion and ethnic group to join UMNO. Applicants whose memberships were not confirmed after two weeks could apply directly to the UMNO Supreme Council for confirmation of their membership status. He said UMNO belonged to all bumiputera in Sabah and they should join together in the struggle to better themselves. Datuk Mohamed added that federal ministers and deputy ministers would meet the people beginning in August to stress the importance of forging close cooperation between the Government of Sabah and the federal government for their progress.

Plan To Hold Conference on Forests Disclosed

BK1906080292 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0343 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 19 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia may organise an international conference to discuss follow-up actions to the agreement reached on the forest issue at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Primary Industries Minister Dr. Lim Keng Yaik said Thursday.

Dr. Lim said he would suggest to the cabinet that the conference be held "maybe early next year."

Speaking to reporters at the airport on his return from the summit, he said the conference would enable forest experts, non-governmental organisations, and representatives of the north and south countries to have further discussions on the matter.

"The conference is important to ensure that the agreement reached on the matter at the summit is implemented," he said.

Dr. Lim said he would present a working paper on the matter to the cabinet soon.

He said that if necessary, the conference would push for the north countries to increase their forest areas.

"We must make efforts to get the commitment for financial aid from the north to preserve the tropical forests and ensure a speedy establishment of the commission on sustainable development," he said, adding that otherwise decisions made in Rio would be forgotten.

Dr. Lim said he had a list of 20 countries which had played an active part in pushing for the decision on the forest principles at the summit.

On Malaysia's refusal to sign the Convention on Climatic Changes, he said: "We might change our stance in the future if the north, especially the United States, take steps to reduce pollution in their countries.

Talks With SRV on Joint Oil Work Viewed

BK1806085792 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 5 Jun 92 p 4

[Editorial: "The Political Impact of Malaysia-SRV Petroleum Talks"]

[Text] Talks between Malaysia and Vietnam to establish oil exploration cooperation in the Gulf of Thailand are certainly related to an earlier statement issued last January by the two countries' foreign ministers on the Spratly Islands, also claimed by the PRC. It is a pity that the cool breeze of peace blowing since early this year toward the hottest spot of potential conflict in Southeast Asia is suddenly overwhelmed by blistering wind from Beijing, which has protested the statement on the Spratly Islands issued by the two countries.

However, friendly ties between Malaysia and Vietnam continue to flourish as evidenced by their decision to establish an off-shore oil exploration program by selecting certain areas in the Gulf of Thailand which fall under their scope of sovereignty and authority.

The concept of continental shelves in international law provides new rights for some countries to exploit their submarine resources. This concept has been brought about by technological progress, which has enabled deep-sea resources to be exploited, as well as growing demand which cannot be satisfied with land-based mineral resources only. As such, the once-neglected continental shelf has now become the prized possession of its fortunate owner.

Cooperation on off-shore oil exploitation has finally become the top priority of certain countries in their efforts to benefit from their undersea mineral resources, which will otherwise be unproductive if these countries are quarelling among themselves. In this region, examples of this type of joint development agreement (JDA) include the one between Malaysia and Thailand in the southwest part of the South China Sea and the one between Indonesia and Australia in the Timor waters.

The JDA concept pays no attention to national boundaries or sovereignty but concentrates more on utilizing existing natural resources. The essence of JDA is an agreement on the respective party's allocation, either in the form of shares of territory or shares of resources overall. This kind of arrangement assures that the resources obtained from undersea mining will be free from the litigation of any other party and can be marketed in a free and open manner.

The Southeast Asian region is not yet totally free from an atmosphere of ideological suspicion and reservation. Therefore, to a certain extent, even though we are not sure of the outcome, we would like to welcome the talks between Malaysia and Vietnam on the joint oil exploration project. On a surface level, the two countries seem to have backed off from their earlier commitment to work together in the Spratly area, but the two countries have taken the right step in starting a joint venture in the area free from the third party's claims.

However, when we look at the issue from another angle, we must also remember that it is very difficult to reach an agreement on the fair sharing of profits gained from such joint ventures. Talks between Indonesia and Vietnam on the exploitation of natural resources on Natuna Island have been going on for years without reaching any agreement acceptable to both parties. In contrast, talks on the JDA between Indonesia and Australia have been finalized and signed.

Vietnam is known as a tough negotiator and that country is proud of this reputation, but it should be proud of this particular quality only if its negotiating partner happens to be its former enemy, namely, the United States. In facing "non-socialist countries" in the past, Vietnam tended to test their patience by using round-about and foot-dragging approaches in its negotiating stance. Victory in negotiations always means defeat for the enemy. However, times have changed and Vietnam itself has undergone change, so its negotiating tactics may also have changed to the point where a compromise reached in negotiations may no longer be viewed as defeat.

No matter what happens, we hope that the talks between Malaysia and Vietnam will proceed smoothly and produce the first internatonal joint venture energy project, which will not only benefit the two countries, but also improve the political climate in Southeast Asia.

Singapore

Port Facilities To Be Expanded in Next 3 Years

BK2006092992 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Jun 92 p 48

[Currency in Singapore dollars]

[Excerpt] The Government will be spending another $920 million over the next three years to expand port facilities to cope with rising container traffic, Communications Minister Mah Bow Tan said yesterday.

Of this sum, about $500 million will be spent on expanding the Tanjong Pagar and Keppel terminals. The remaining $420 million will be used to "intensify" the operations of the Brani Terminal, bringing the total development costs at that terminal to around $1.4 billion.

Mr. Mah, who was speaking to 1,300 guests and shipping representatives at the official launching of the new facilities at the World Trade Centre, said the investments will maximise the capacity of the existing terminals at the Keppel Harbour to over 12 million 20-foot equivalent units (FEUs).

The investments will also enable Singapore to cope with the demands of the container business until the new terminal at Pasir Panjang, currently under planning, is ready.

PSA [Port of Singapore Authority] has projected container traffic to continue to grow strongly over the next few years. For the first five months of this year, container traffic grew at a rate of 22 per cent.

Mr. Mah also praised the Port of Singapore Authority (PSA) for taking the initiative to make the waterfront more accessible to the public with its $166-million investment in redeveloping World Trade Centre into a popular maritime business and recreational centre. [passage omitted]

Malaysia To Pay More To Use Woodlands Naval Base

BK1806090492 Singapore THE SUNDAY TIMES in English 14 Jun 92 p 3

[Text] Malaysia will be paying a higher rent for its sprawling naval base in Woodlands. Its Defence Minister said this yesterday after reviewing a passing-out parade of 310 Malaysian recruits at the base. He also said that changes to the use of Malaysian airspace by the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) were discussed amicably with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong.

Datuk Sri Najib Tun Abdul Razak said that the Malaysian Navy's base was one of the main items he discussed with Mr. Goh, during a courtesy call on Friday night. Mr Goh told him that the rent for the Woodlands plot of land was being revised so that it would be compatible with market rates.

The Malaysians now pay $1.9 million [Singapore dollars] annually for use of the barracks. This rate was set in 1974. He added that the new rental rate will be fixed only after further discussion.

According to a BERNAMA report, Singapore is proposing a $6 million rent for the 72 hectares, whose value had increased to about $100 million.

On the discussions about the use of Malaysian air space by Singapore aircraft, Datuk Najib told reporters that the new regulations were drawn up for the safety of civilians in Southern Johor. Basically, aircraft taking off from Tengah Air Base and Paya Lebar Airport will be required to climb to a minimum height of 5,000 feet (1,500 metres) before entering Malaysian airspace. He said that also, with the new regulations, pilots of aircraft which develop difficulties soon after take-off will head towards the sea.

The RSAF would also need to seek Malaysia's clearance on the number of aircraft that could use the corridor. He said that the new regulations will be implemented by an exchange of diplomatic notes.

"Mr Goh," he said, "is very happy and he understands there is a need to marry the interests of the population in Johor and the need for us to maintain good defence relations and co-operation."

Datuk Najib added however, that the danger from flying aircraft cannot be eliminated altogether.

He noted: "As long as planes fly over the air, there will be risk. But the risk would be minimised with the new regulations."

Datuk Najib said that Mr. Goh also stressed that he would like the good relations between the two sides to continue and any problems to be resolved as soon as possible.

Mr. Goh emphasised that he would like to keep the political channel open particularly between him and Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed, Datuk Najib said.

Cambodia

Meeting of Paris Accord Signatories Urged

BK2306072592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Unattributed commentary: "To Successfully Resolve the Deadlock in the Implementation of the Paris Agreement, It Is Imperative To Hold Another Meeting of all Signatories of the Agreement"]

[Text] It is very important for all signatories of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement to meet again in order to elaborate and emphasize the implementation of all points of the agreement, particularly the following two key points:

1. The supervision of the total withdrawal of all categories of Vietnamese aggressor forces from Cambodia.

2. The Supreme National Council [SNC] being the legitimate body and unique source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period representing Cambodia's sovereignty, independence, and national unity.

These two key points should be clearly assessed by all parties whether they are in line with the essence and spirit of the agreement and whether the Paris agreement mentions these two points in its articles.

These are the main points that all signatories of the Paris agreement should get together and clearly elaborate their meaning to break through the current deadlock and proceed with the implementation. Otherwise, there can be no way out of this deadlock in the implementation of the agreement because:

1. The resistance forces' side continue adhering to the real essence of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement with clear reasons:

First: To make Vietnam withdraw all its aggressor forces from Cambodia under the supervision of the UN Peacekeeping Force and four Cambodian factions.

Second: The SNC plays its role as the legitimate body and unique source of power during the transitional period.

The resistance forces have proposed that if these two key points are implemented by all parties, the remaining questions can certainly be settled quickly.

2. The Vietnamese aggressors, their allies, and a number of bad elements have arbitrarily carried on the implementation according to their own essence, that is:

First: They have ignored the supervision on the total withdrawal of Vietnamese aggressors from Cambodia. On the contrary, they have maintained the Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia.

Second: They have maintained the Vietnamese-installed puppet regime in power in Cambodia. This act runs totally against the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

Therefore, these two essences completely differ like oil and water which cannot mix.

In the above situation, whatever effort is made, this deadlock cannot be resolved. Therefore, the best way out of this deadlock is for the co-chairmen of the Paris international conference on Cambodia to reconvene the meeting of all signatories of the Paris agreement to clearly elaborate the essence of the agreement. Only by so doing can the process for peace in Cambodia be achieved.

Khieu Samphan Sends Letter

BK2306013292 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] On 19 June 1992, His Excellency Khieu Samphan, member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia and head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea [DK], sent a letter to His Excellency Butrus Butrus-Ghali, UN secretary general, and His Excellency Ali Alatas, Indonesian foreign minister and cochairman of the Paris international conference on Cambodia. The text of this letter is as follows:

To the cochairman and the UN secretary general.

Excellencies: The implementation of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement has reached a very important stage.

It is regrettable that a conflict of opinion has arisen at this stage. Some have claimed that the Paris agreement has not been implemented while some others have said that the most fundamental points of the Paris agreement have not been implemented. The political atmosphere has turned cloudy. This has affected cooperation and mutual understanding, thus stalling the implementation of the agreement.

To get out of this deadlock, the party of Democratic Kampuchea believes that all signatories of the Paris agreement should meet again in order to reaffirm the implementation of the various points in the agreement according to their essence and spirit.

To achieve this, the DK would like to propose another meeting of all signatories to the agreement either in Paris, Jakarta, New York, or Phatthaya.

We hope that your excellencies will kindly consider this important proposal.

Please accept my highest regards.

[Date] 19 June 1992
[Signed] Khieu Samphan, member of the SNC and head of the DK

Mixed Military Working Group Meets 17 Jun

BK2106142192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] On 17 June, a first-level meeting of the Mixed Military Working Group was held under the chairmanship of Lieutenant General John Sanderson, military commander of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], and General Loridon at the headquarters of the UNTAC's Indonesian military contingent, some five kilometers north of the provincial town of Kompong Thom. Attending were three-star Lt. Gen. Phuong Siphan, deputy chief of the General Staff of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces; Brigadier General Uong Bunthi of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia [FUNCINPEC]; and Colonel Lai Bunsong of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF].

Opening the meeting at 1110, Lt. Gen. Sanderson said there have been difficulties in the implementation of the second phase of the peace accord due to the Khmer Rouge troops' refusal to abide by it. He indicated the UNTAC have already deployed its forces across the country and that the Khmer Rouge have refused to cooperate with UNTAC in verifying the areas under their control. On the security issue of Route 12, Lt. Gen. Sanderson said the route is economically important to the people in the region. As such, he asked the four Cambodian parties to jointly find a solution to restore the security and stability there.

At the meeting, Lt. Gen. Phuong Siphan pointed out that since the Paris 23 October 1991 accord, the Armed Forces of the State of Cambodia [SOC] have correctly executed the accord and created all kinds of favorable conditions for UNTAC to operate. In particular, the SOC Army has shown goodwill and set itself as a praiseworthy model in the implementation of phase two by regrouping its troops at the various cantonments for UN verification. Regarding the Route 12 issue, he said since signing the Paris accord, the Khmer Rouge have continued for several months to commit violations by sending their forces to attack and overrun it. So in view of the people's hardship in rebuilding the nation's economy and earning a living, the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] launched military operations to clear Route 12 to ensure smooth traffic for the people and for the UNTAC to pursue its tasks. Gen. Phuong Siphan called on the UNTAC to help rebuild the roads and bridges along the route that the Khmer Rouge have completely destroyed.

As for the FUNCINPEC and KPNLF representatives, they have also asked the Khmer Rouge, who have hampered the peace agreement, to end their activities immediately and to abide by the accord to speedily achieve peace for the people.

At the meeting, the Khmer Rouge representative did not show any sign of goodwill. He continued to stubbornly argue over the application of the peace accord by repeatedly raising the issue of the presence of Vietnamese forces in Cambodia. In fact, the troops were completely repatriated in September 1989. The Khmer Rouge assertion not only shows they have failed to respect the peace accord, but that they also want to continue the war to cause the people more hardship and to wipe Cambodia from the world map.

After the meeting, Generals Sanderson and Loridon and all the participants visited the Prasat Balang district and the UNTAC command post in the area.

It is worth noting that the 17 June meeting of the Commission for the Coordination of Military Affairs, which was scheduled to begin at 1000, was delayed due to the absence of the Khmer Rouge representative. Gen. Sanderson and Loridon and the representatives of the three other Cambodian Armies waited for one hour and 10 minutes before Gen. Chu Chim, the Khmer Rouge Army representative turned up. This shows the Khmer Rouge are not interested in meetings to discuss the implementation of the agreement to speedily achieve peace in Cambodia. On the contrary, they want to continue the war to cause more difficulties to the people and make them suffer more.

Khmer Rouge Rationale Discussed

BK2006065592 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Jun 92 p 4

[Article by Jacques Bekaert under the "Cambodian Diary" column, entitled: "The Khmer Rouge Enigma"]

[Text] Nobody is quite sure why the Party of Democratic Kampuchea—the Khmer Rouge—has decided to pose so many roadblocks on the already arduous path of the peace process in Cambodia. The Khmer Rouge leadership remains one of the most secretive in the world, and it believes no public relations campaign is necessary to explain its behaviour.

The Khmer Rouge are well aware that what they say does not matter much, especially in the eyes of Western countries, since it has been decided long ago that they were criminals, that contacts with them should be avoided as much as possible, and that they will never change. Their propaganda is targeted at their own militants, their troops, and at the Khmer rural population.

Images of the Khmer Rouge's brutal rule during 1975-78 are still haunting a lot of people. But was the time of the Khmer Rouge really worse than that of the Cultural Revolution in China, or the Stalinist period in the Soviet Union? Was the Cambodian goulag more cruel than the Soviet or the Chinese one? In realpolitik, we talk to former Stalinists, to many others who took part in terrible actions against their fellow men.

The moral revulsion most people feel towards the Khmer Rouge should not obscure the fact they are alive, have popular support, and continue to raise disturbing and persistent questions about the future of the Cambodian nation and the present application of the Paris agreement.

The Khmer Rouge probably do not realise that they, and certainly their complaints, have gained credibility in the past few months. In the past few days so many sources, some of them staunchly anti-Khmer Rouge, told me that "the Khmer Rouge have a point," that the application of the peace agreement has been somewhat unfair to them, that the SNC [Supreme National Council] does not enjoy the power it should have, that indeed the ruling party in Phnom Penh benefits more from UN largesse than any other group, especially the Khmer Rouge.

The People's Party of Cambodia (PPC) does control Phnom Penh and every major city in the country. There is a working government in Phnom Penh. There is a political party that has been working hard in the past 12 years to establish a vast network of provincial and district branches. It is a party that by and large comes from the same roots as the Khmer Rouge, and is determined to preserve its power.

There has been some internal concern in recent weeks over the way the civilian side of UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] has come to strongly criticise the Khmer Rouge. There are some Western countries which agree that some of the Khmer Rouge's complaints are at least partly legitimate and should be addressed, and that cease-fire violations have been committed by both Phnom Penh and the Khmer Rouge.

According to reliable sources, a lot of foreign diplomats and military experts now see that the Cambodian issue is a lot more complex than they used to think, that there is no black and white solution, that a great variety of facts, opinion and concerns have to be taken into account if one is determined to see the peace process continue in a satisfactory fashion. The present strong language used by the civilian branch of UNTAC has disturbed members of UNTAC who believe it will only further alienate the Khmer Rouge and undermine the peace process.

According to diplomatic sources, some of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council agree that not enough power has been granted to the Supreme National Council, that the "supervision" of the five key ministries (Defence, Information, Foreign Affairs, Finance and Interior) is at best superficial. One diplomat from a former communist country told us a few months ago that the Cambodian Ministry of Interior was built on the Vietnamese model, by experts at the secrecy game "What you see is not what you get," he said.

Of course the Khmer Rouge have to bear some of the blame, not just because of their awful past but because they have always resisted any form of supervision from the UN or any other organisation. That the Khmer Rouge have some reason to be angry does not make them innocent by-standers either.

Why are the Khmer Rouge suddenly so hard in expressing their complaints?

Nobody seems to know the answer. One theory is that there is a split between the civilian leadership of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea and its army, the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea (NADK). According to the theory, which does not seem to be based on hard facts, the military have their own agenda. They do not want UN supervision, even less so disarmament.

The NADK high command, or a least some key commanders, disagree with the peace process and still believe they could win. Their dedication to a protracted war is allegedly motivated by their deep conviction that there are still Vietnamese troops in Cambodia and that Phnom Penh is no more than a puppet of Hanoi, with the UN acting as an anti-Khmer Rouge instrument.

Though this is only a hypothesis the question of the Vietnamese presence is worth considering "Yes," say most sources, "there are still some Vietnamese military experts in Cambodia, maybe even a very limited number of troops." But these Western sources disagree entirely with the Khmer Rouge when it comes to the function and power of these Vietnamese soldiers.

Vietnam is maintaining its eye and ears in Cambodia, "as any country in the same situation would do," says a Western diplomat. It is also true that many Vietnamese civilians have in recent months armed themselves for their own protection. But they are not soldiers, and I am absolutely convinced that Hanoi has totally abandoned any "colonial" idea it may have entertained towards Cambodia more than ten years ago.

As one former Vietnamese adviser in Cambodia told me, "if one considers what our goals were in 1979, then we lost the war in Cambodia." But he quickly added: "But the fact that we lost is very fortunate for Vietnam. Now we are out of Cambodia, and that's the way it should be."

A senior Vietnamese official has admitted that there have been some alterations to the long common border between Vietnam and Cambodia—to Vietnam's advantage—and that the issue should be cleared with the legal government of Cambodia in a peaceful manner.

It is also possible that the Khmer Rouge leadership has decided that it was time to send a strong message to the UN and the international community. If this is indeed the case, then the message has reached more people than the Party of Democratic Kampuchea could imagine. The Khmer Rouge leadership should now be more flexible and accept the cantonment and disarmament of troops.

It is also possible that the Khmer Rouge leadership is convinced that its present hardline stance on the Vietnamese issue is gaining the support in the countryside, and that at the end they will benefit from their own intransigence. In this case no amount of pressure from Thailand or China or anyone else will do much good in the short run.

There are also people who simply believe that the Khmer Rouge are undermining the peace process because they are evil and mean. I'm afraid it is a bit simplistic. It would be hard to find consolation in a new three-party solution that would exclude the Khmer Rouge.

People involved in the peace process in Cambodia must try to understand the complexity of the issue and why the Khmer Rouge and so many other Khmers share that deep fear of "racial extinction" which often leads to irrational behaviour.

And finally, one should remember that the strength of the Khmer Rouge is relative to the weakness of the other factions. If the Khmer Rouge still enjoy some real support in the countryside and among some Khmer intellectuals, it is because the present ruling party has failed to pay much attention to the real needs of the majority of the population.

Tie Banh Meets Foreign Military Attaches

BK2006131892 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] To jointly celebrate the 41st anniversary of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces [CPAF] and Army-people solidarity day, a delegation of military attaches from the SRV, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the Russian Federation led by Colonel (Bui My) paid a courtesy call on General Tie Banh, member of the Standing Committee of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, defense minister of the State of Cambodia [SOC], and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC]; Gen. Ke Kimyan, member of the Standing Committee of the CPP Central Committee, first deputy defense minister, and chief of the Army General Political Department; and other officials of the Defense Ministry at the Army Foreign Relations Department on the evening of 18 June.

On that occasion, Col. (Bui My), the SRV's military attache to Cambodia, enthusiastically welcomed the anniversary of the CPAF and Army-people solidarity day, recalling the history of the courage and bravery as well as great successes of the high-level leadership of the SOC Defense Ministry and of all the cadres and combatants, who are currently pursuing their tasks to overcome all obstacles for the nation and people and to bring about genuine peace in Cambodia.

On his part, Gen. Tie Banh deeply thanked the military attaches of the three countries who have continued their efforts in the search for peace for the Cambodian people and to constantly upgrade the relations of solidarity among the peoples and armies of Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, and Russia.

Hun Sen Receives Singapore Trade Development Team

BK2006093192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 19 Jun 92

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the Supreme National Council, granted an audience to Alan Yeo, chairman of Singapore's Trade Development Board, at the office of the Council of Ministers on the morning of 19 June. Speaking on that occasion, H.E. Hun Sen thanked Singapore, which has not only assisted the State of Cambodia [SOC] in promoting its policy of streamlining the economy and restoring imbalance, but has also increased economic aid for Cambodia. He voiced his hope that the relations between Cambodia and Singapore would further develop.

In his reply, Alan Yeo thanked the SOC for having made his visit, especially trade relations with and investments in Cambodia, successful, adding that Singapore would remain one of Cambodia's trade partners.

Sar Kheng Greets Delegation

BK2106101592 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1137 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh 20 Jun (SPK)—Sar Kheng, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and interior minister, received in Phnom Penh on 17 June a Singaporean Trade Development Board [TDB] delegation led by its chairman Alan Yeo.

On this occasion, Sar Kheng informed his guest of the long-standing friendship of the two countries interrupted by the war in Cambodia.

"A new page in the history of our two fraternal countries is now open," he said, adding that Cambodia aims to forge close trade links with Singapore. He stressed that Cambodia recently attended an economic and trade development seminar in Vietnam. He added he hoped Cambodia would have good relations with many countries, particularly with Singapore.

For his part, Alan Yeo affirmed that during the first five months of this year Cambodia and Singapore have exchanged visits by many delegations. He said the goal of the TDB delegation's second visit is to gather information on the Cambodian economy and trade, with the aim of reestablishing and promoting them between the two countries.

Indonesia

U.S. Dollars Donated to Arakan Burmese Refugees

BK2106094292 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0334 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] Dhaka, June 20 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia has donated a sum of 50,000 US dollars for the Burmese Arakani Muslim refugees sheltering in Bangladesh's southeastern district of Cox's Bazar.

Indonesian Ambassador to Bangladesh Air Vice Marshall (retired) Sumakno Iswadi handed over a cheque amounting to taka 1.9 million (50,000 US dollars) to the refugee commissioner Shahidul Islam at the latter's office at Cox's Bazar on Saturday.

Defence Attache Colonel Zainul Abedin and Second Secretary Muhamed Ischaque of the Indonesian Embassy were present.

Earlier, Indonesia's al-Irsyad al-Islamiyyah and another Muslim community donated US$ 30,000 and US$ 10,000 respectively for the over 270,000 refugees in Bangladesh.

The Indonesian ambassador visited some refugee camps and talked to the refugees.

Suharto Hosts Banquet for Visiting Uzbek Leader

BK2206155192 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] President Suharto said that resources that had so far been used for buying weapons should now be utilized to fight poverty, sickness, and backwardness among mankind. They should also be used to care for the environment. President Suharto said this in a speech at the state banquet in honor of Uzbek President Islam Karimov at the State Palace in Jakarta tonight.

In his speech, President Suharto also remarks that developing and poor countries are yet to fully enjoy the period following the end of the Cold War.

[Begin Suharto recording] Developing countries, whose populations make up the majority of mankind, are still bogged down with suffering and backwardness. The developing countries are facing serious socioeconomic problems. The limited capital, lack of technological advancement, and shortage of qualified manpower are the main obstacles that make developing countries unable to meet the growing stiff economic competition in the world. These shortcomings will be the source of agitation in a world that continues to become more open and united. However, in the long run, not even one nation or a single group of nations will draw benefits from such a situation. Likewise, the industrialized nations will also not gain any benefits. That is why the international community should join hands in a struggle to create a better and stable new world order that will guarantee good welfare for all mankind. [end recording].

At the moment, the Uzbek president is delivering his reply speech. The state banquet, which began with an exchange of gifts, was also attended by Madame Suharto and Vice President and Mrs. Sudharmono.

Official on Study To Build Nuclear Power Plant

BK2206124592 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0955 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Denpasar, June 22 (OANA/ANTARA)—The study on the possibility of constructing a nuclear powerplant (PLTN) in Indonesia in an attempt to save on fuel oil, is expected to be completed by November 1993, the director general of electricity and new energy resources, Professor Dr. Artono Arismunandar said in Nusa Dua, Bali, on Monday.

After officiating at the opening of an international workshop on tropical electricity cables, Artono Arismunandar told ANTARA that a team of researchers was at present conducting a feasibility study on the construction of a PLTN and the result of the study would immediately be submitted for government's approval. The use of a nuclear powerplant in Indonesia was accepted by the government as an alternative in saving government funds on electricity.

The use of nuclear energy for power generating will be cheaper than the use of subsidised fuel oil, Artono Arismunandar said. As the chairman of the committee of advisors for the PLTN study group, Artono Arismunandar said that he was of the same view as various circles who said that nuclear energy could be used as a last resort if no new energy sources could be discovered to save state funds.

A new energy alternative which has been used in generating electricity before deciding on nuclear energy, is coal.

Java lacks energy sources, but uses on the other hand 80 per cent of the available electricity, necessitating 'imports' of electricity from other regions, he said.

There is a plan to use coal from Sumatera to meet the electricity demand from Java. Electricity connections between Sumatera and Java has to be carried out by means of submarine cables. The plan is however still under consideration with regard to its economic aspect, Artono Arismunandar said.

The demand for electricity in Indonesia has increased rapidly, with an average increase rate in consumption of 151 per cent per year in the last 20 years. The state-run electricity company, PLN, in the last 20 years until 1988/1989 supplied 20 trillion KWH of electricity which increased by 30 trillion KWH by the end of 1991/1992. The condition of electric power in Indonesia is at present still not normal and is expected to improve by March 1993, because of plans to build additional powerplants and by 1994/1995 all demands for electric power can be met, he asserted.

Laos

UNHCR Gives $2.5 Million Aid for Repatriates

BK2006102492 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Vientiane, June 20 (KPL)—The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] has decided to grant U.S. $2,495,383 aid for repatriates through three projects this year. They are the project for a new settlement for refugees, an emergency aid project, and an aid project for refugees in Bokeo Province.

The signatories of the agreement on these projects are the UNHCR representative in Laos, Lao deputy minister on social welfare and veterans, and the director of the International Organizations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

FAO Rice Aid Distributed in Southern Provinces

BK2106095992 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] According to the Food and Agriculture Organization [FAO] representative office in Vientiane, the second and last shipment of rice donated by the organization has already arrived at various places on 16 June. The rice is for the natural disaster victims of last year's monsoon rice farming season in three southern provinces.

Of the 4,000 metric tons in this shipment, 1,420 tons have been sent to Khammouane Province, 1,900 tons to Savannakhet Province, and 680 tons to Champassak Province. The rice is being urgently distributed to various localities in each province to help alleviate starvation and to assist rice production activities in the coming main rice farming season.

A total of 4,000 metric tons was also sent to the three southern provinces in the first FAO shipment. It arrived in Laos in mid-April this year. Khammouane Province received 1,400 tons, while Savannakhet Province 1,080 tons, and Champassak Province 1,520 tons.

Therefore, all the FAO-donated rice has reached the drought and flood victims of the three southern provinces.

In summary, Khammouane Province was given 2,820 tons, Savannakhet 2,980 tons, and Champassak 2,200 tons. The two shipments totaled 8,000 tons.

PRC Shipbuilding, Production Cooperation Hailed

BK2106112392 Vientiane PASASON in Lao
5 Jun 92 p 2

[Feature, by Manisai: "Lao-Chinese Cooperation Has Bright Future"]

[Text] Implementing Resolution No. 31 dated 24 December 1985 of the Political Bureau of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, the Mountainous Region Development Company has been authorized to purchase a second seagoing freighter. The freighter has a loading capacity of 3,000 metric tons compared to the first, which has a loading capacity of 1,500 metric tons and was purchased from Japan in mid-1989.

Regarding this, Cheng Sai-gnavong, director general of the Mountainous Region Development Company, who is in charge of guiding the Lao Maritime Company, said: The Lao People's Democratic Republic's [LPDR] second freighter is named "Vientiane." Its purchase contract was signed with the Equipment and Machinery Export-Import Company of PRC's Guangxi Province on 11 December 1989. The Chinese company has authorized the (Guojiang) shipyard in (Huzhou) District, Guangxi Province, to design and build the freighter. The (Guojiang) shipyard is well-known for its design and has been internationally recognized. It is supervised and managed by technical experts from (?Lloyd's) of Britain.

Through a high spirit of responsibility and with skills of PRC engineers, our freighter, valued at U.S. $5.3 million, has been initially completed. It has also been officially christened at the (Guojiang) Port in a ceremony held in the presence of many high-ranking PRC officials. According to the plan, the freighter will then be equipped with engines and sail for Guangzhou Port where it will be installed with masts and other components. The handover of the freighter is expected to be held in late October this year. It will also be manned by Lao navigators and Chinese experts.

Cheng Sai-gnavong added: A delegation from our Mountainous Region Development Company has also held consultations and signed an economic cooperation agreement with the PRC Southern Trade and Industry Company. The agreement involves a shoes factory, an auto-transport machinery and vehicle repairing factory, a weaving factory, food and drink shops, hotels, a battery producing factory, a traditional herbal medicine factory, and mining and transportation. An initial agreement was also signed on preparation for the establishment of joint ventures on the production and processing of pine tree rubber in (Huzhou), Guangxi Province.

In carrying out the projects as stipulated in the agreements, beginning late June 1992, the two sides will appoint technical teams to jointly study and collect facts on the economy and technical conditions. They will also set rules and regulations of the enterprises and work out a draft agreement on joint enterprises and other necessary documents. They will then submit them to the LPDR Investment Control Committee for official approval.

The initial success in building the Lao vessel with the cooperation of the PRC, together with the signing of the agreements on economic, production, and technical cooperation, reflect the good cooperation of the LPDR with the PRC.

Philippines

Japan To Grant Loan To Ramos Administration

HK2306043592 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English
23 Jun 92 p 3

[By Booma Cruz]

[Text] Like his number one supporter and predecessor, President-elect Fidel Ramos would start his six-year term of office on a positive note—a $200-million commodity loan from Japan for the rehabilitation of areas affected by the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo.

"The Japanese will be coming with a gift to the new administration. The Pinatubo commodity loan which is finalized and now ready for signing... The Japanese government will be signing it with the new administration," Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao told Palace reporters after a meeting with President Aquino.

The loan, which Estanislao described as "concessional," would be payable in 25 years with a 2.5 to 3% yearly interest.

Japan was among the first countries that responded to the Philippines' call for assistance after the Pinatubo eruption.

Referred to as the worst disaster of the century, the 600-year-old dormant volcano's fury stunted Philippine economic recovery, destroyed billions in properties, and left thousands homeless, and displaced almost a million workers.

In a related development, Estanislao said the next pledging session for the Philippine Assistance Program (PAP) would depend on the new fund program which the Ramos government would have to draw up. "There can be no pledging session if there is no fund program," he added.

Estanislao said the next administration would have to finalize its own fund program by October or November for presentation in January next year. Programs funded by the PAP would run out by December this year.

The finance secretary, who had already briefed Ramos on the financial position of the government he would inherit from Mrs. Aquino also said the next government would have to negotiate for the rescheduling of the country's debts with the Paris Club before December, when the loans mature.

Estanislao said the government would save a lot of foreign exchange that could be used for various development projects if the negotiations were finalized before the end of the year.

Navy To Buy Exocet Missiles for New Gunboats

HK2206054992 Quezon City MALAYA in English 21 Jun 92 p 6

[By Noel Bartolome]

[Text] The Philippine Navy plans to buy French-made Exocet anti-ship missiles that will be fitted into three new gunboats the government will acquire.

Rear Admiral Mariano Dumancas Jr., navy chief, yesterday said the Exocet missiles, which costs about P1 million [Pesos] each, will be the main armament of the three Spanish-made Fast Attack Crafts.

Dumancas said the acquisition of the $99.8 million gunboats, which will be the country's first missile-firing ships, is part of the Navy's 10-year modernization program.

The Philippine Navy is the only naval force with no missile capability in six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Indonesia has 13 missile-armed vessels; Singapore, nine; Malaysia and Thailand, eight each; and Brunei, six.

Dumancas said the Exocet missiles had been proven in actual combat during the fierce naval battle between Britain and Argentina in the 1982 Falklands war.

"The acquisition of the Exocet will boost the defense capability of the Navy," Dumancas said.

He said that aside from the three missile ships that will also be armed with anti-aircraft guns, three more gunboats armed with cannons and machine guns were also ordered from Australia and two logistic support vessels from the People's Republic of China.

The eight-ship acquisition, worth P13 billion, is part of Phase I from 1990 to 1995 of the 10-year modernization program.

Phase II will cover 1995 to 2000 and will involve the acquisition of 30 more vessels, including 10 search and rescue vessels will cost the government P37 billion. [sentence as published]

Dumancas said President Aquino will be the special guest in the activation of three new 78-footer Patrol Fast Craft that were recently delivered by the U.S. during the 94th anniversary celebration of the Philippine Navy on Tuesday.

Ramos, Estrada Officially Proclaimed Poll Winners

HK2206115392 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By Cesar Chavez]

[Text] The contest is over. Former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos has been proclaimed the country's new president, and Senator Joseph Estrada the new vice president.

Senate President Neptali Gonzales and House Speaker Ramon Mitra, Jr. proclaimed Ramos as the country's president and Joseph Estrada as the vice president at 1915 [1115 GMT] at the Session Hall of the National Assembly Building. Everybody in the hall, including the opposition, applauded. Despite a heated debate at the joint session, a majority of the congressmen and senators finally approved the resolution proclaiming Ramos and Estrada winners at 1915. The law states that the Senate president alone has the authority to proclaim the country's president and vice president.

Ramos, Estrada Express Thanks

HK2306095292 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Fidel Ramos today accepted the Filipino nation's sentiment as the duly elected president of the Philippines.

Ramos also praised the members of the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the Commission on Elections for their great sense of duty.

Ramos also said the orderly elections proved that the Filipino nation is committed to the democratic process.

He promised to continue the efforts towards national renewal and transformation.

He said he will uphold the Constitution, give justice to the people and offer his life to the nation.

For his part, newly proclaimed Vice President Joseph Estrada gave thanks to the Filipinos who voted for him.

Estrada gave the statement to DZMM correspondent Maning Silva when he arrived earlier today from the United States.

Estrada said he will spend all his time helping the people once he officially takes his seat and given duties by president-elect Ramos.

In case he does not get a Cabinet post, he will help the people through non-governmental organizations and farmers' cooperatives.

Estrada also said all is set for his inauguration at the historic Barasoain Church in Malolos, Bulacan.

Ramos and Senator Joseph Estrada were proclaimed last night as president and vice president after two and a half hours of deliberations in a joint session of Congress.

The Senate and the House of Representatives had earlier voted separately on the resolution, which is the result of the canvassing conducted by a 14-member congressional committee.

The deliberations did not have heated debates, although Senators Ernesto Maceda and John Osmena of the

Nationalist People's Coalition [NPC] voted against the resolution, while Senator Sotero Laurel abstained.

Among the congressmen who rejected the resolution were Ed Joson of NPC and Congresswoman Tessie Aquino-Oreta of the Struggle of Filipino Democrats. Congressmen Victor Ortega and Antonio Abaya led the 26 NPC congressmen who abstained.

Ramos and Estrada were proclaimed at about 1914 [1114 GMT].

Ramos won the election by getting 23.5 percent of the total votes while Estrada led his closest rival, former Chief Justice Marcelo Fernan, by 2.3 million votes.

Ramos Promises National Survival

HK2306082692 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 23 Jun 92

["Excerpt" of speech by Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos following his proclamation as president at Malacanang Palace, Manila—in English]

[Text] [Begin Ramos recording, in progress] ...our people's mandate, as the duly-elected president of our republic. By this official proclamation of the results of the 11 May elections by Congress, Filipinos have proven to the entire world our abiding commitment and strict adherence to the democratic ideals.

On behalf of our people, I salute the honorable members of the Senate and the House of Representatives for their great sense of duty in reaffirming the people's will. My highest commendations likewise go to the Commission on Elections and all our patriotic teachers, soldiers, policemen, ROTC, and other officials for upholding the cause of honest, orderly, and peaceful elections.

I am prepared to assume the presidency. I wish to assure our countrymen that my administration will be dedicated to the sacred goals of national survival and economic transformation.

I am committed to the fulfillment of the deep yearning of our people for a government that will truly be worthy of the noble sacrifices of our heroes. My administration will be open to all men and women of good will, who believe in the cause of good government and, above all, the effective empowerment of our countrymen, especially those who are poor and powerless.

I thank also those who have sacrificed so much to help elect me to the presidency. The only way I can express my gratitude to them and to all our people is to be a president who will faithfully observe the constitutional duty to do justice to every man and consecrate myself to the service of the nation.

With God's help and our people's support, I will not fail in this sacred trust. Thank you very much.

Congressmen React Favorably

HK2206121892 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 22 Jun 92

[By Cesar Chavez]

[Text] Congressman Rolando Andaya of Camarines Sur and chairman of the powerful House Committee on Appropriations has this to say on the proclamation of Ramos by congress.

[Begin Andaya recording] I am happy that our candidate Fidel Ramos of the Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats has been proclaimed. I am happy for our people and country. I am happy because we strongly campaigned for Eddie Ramos. Thank you. [end recording]

Here is Congressman Raul Daza, a member of the Liberal Party:

[Begin Daza recording] I am both happy and sad. I am sad because those proclaimed were not our candidates. But of course, in an election there are those who win and lose. However, I am happy with the approval of the joint committee report because it is the sealing factor of the entire process. It is important that we have a president and vice president during the time set in the Constitution, but most importantly we have shown to the world that we in the Philippines have democracy. We have a democracy which we Filipinos are obliged to strengthen. We should unite to resolve our problems mainly because we are all Filipinos. The party affiliation only comes secondary. [end recording]

Senator Osmena of the Nationalist People's Coalition gives this reaction:

[Begin Osmena recording] Even if I am in the opposition and will now belong to the minority, I hope that the country becomes better and that the newly proclaimed president is able to face and resolve our many problems. We in our party will cooperate for the good of the country but we will not abandon our obligation of being the opposition. [end recording]

Group Reportedly To Protest

HK2206014292 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 21 Jun 92

[Text] The New Nationalist Alliance [Bayan] has confirmed that they will launch a protest action against the country's newly elected president, Fidel Ramos. In an interview with DWIZ, Eta Rosales of Bayan said that they are launching a protest action against Ramos to object to the fraud committed during the past election, which includes the use of the National Appropriation for Local Government Units-Budgetary Appropriation for Local Government Units to further Ramos' candidacy. Rosales also said they condemn the government for using millions of pesos for the new president's inauguration. They are also against the former defense secretary's position on the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant issue.

Petition Against Ramos Proclamation Dismissed

HK2306101992 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Interview with Supreme Court clerk of the court Attorney Luz Puno by DZRH anchorman Deo Macalma—live from the Supreme Court, Manila; italicized passages in English]

[Text] [Macalma] *Happy birthday, Attorney Puno and good afternoon.*

[Puno] *Thank you.* You know, even if it is my birthday, the show must go on.

[Macalma] Attorney, what is the Supreme Court's decision on Mrs. Santiago's petition, which is now considered as *moot and academic* because Ramos was already proclaimed last night.

[Puno] The Supreme Court has dismissed the petition because it is already *moot and academic* as President-elect Fidel V. Ramos has been proclaimed.

[Macalma] Are there no dissenting opinions from our justices, Attorney?

[Puno] Justice Carolina Grinio Aquino concurred, insofar as it is no longer possible to issue a restraining order. But she filed her personal opinion because she believes that Mrs. Miriam Defensor Santiago's petition should be given its due course. So, she's the only person who has a *separate concurring and dissenting opinion.*

[Macalma] So, this case is already closed because there is already a decision.

[Puno] There is already a decision.

[Macalma] Is it possible for Mrs. Santiago to file a motion for reconsideration?

[Puno] Every citizen has the right to file a motion for reconsideration. So, we cannot say it cannot be done because this is a constitutional right of every citizen.

Ramos Said Pleased With Ruling

HK2306110292 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Statement by Philippine President-elect Fidel V. Ramos' attorney Gamaliel Bonco—at the Supreme Court, Manila; live, in English]

[Text] On behalf of President-Elect Fidel V. Ramos, I am his lawyer attorney Gamaliel Bonco, we are indeed very pleased upon hearing the decision of the Supreme Court.

As a matter of fact, when I read in the papers that it will be deliberated on this morning, I went to see the clerk of court, Attorney Luz Puno, and delivered to her the Resolution No. 2 passed by the Joint Session of Congress wherein the president-elect of the Philippines has already been declared and proclaimed. Thank you very much.

Ramos To Lead Trade Missions To ASEAN, Japan

OW2206150092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1414 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Manila, June 22 KYODO—Newly proclaimed Philippine president Fidel Ramos said Monday he will personally lead trade and investment missions to member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Japan to spur investments to the country.

He said his priority will be ASEAN because of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), and Japan, which is the Philippines' biggest aid donor.

"I will personally lead missions abroad, especially to those countries that are in our Asia and Pacific region to encourage and persuade our friends to invest in the Philippines, to come to the Philippines as tourists or to visit the Philippines for any legal purpose," Ramos said at a press conference.

At the same time, Ramos said he remains confident that he would be able to meet with his closest rival, former immigration chief Miriam Santiago. Ramos has already met with five other rivals to the presidency except Santiago.

Ramos met Sunday night with former first lady Imelda Marcos, another presidential candidate. The meeting followed dialogues with other political rivals.

A source in the Ramos camp said Santiago is likely to meet with Ramos Monday night, but on Monday morning, Santiago rejected proposals that she support the new president.

"I hope they will stop forcing me into supporting something against my will. I am but a humble citizen but I have principles to uphold," she said in an interview with Radio Station DZRH.

She also maintained that Ramos cheated her in the elections, and that she will continue her bid to challenge his victory before the courts.

Abadia: No 'Red Alert' for Ramos Inauguaration

HK2206125292 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Armed Forces chief Lisandro Abadia announced today he will not declare a red alert during the turnover of power to President-elect Fidel Ramos on 30 June. Josette Olivera reports:

[Begin Olivera recording] Abadia said the military and communist rebels may do whatever they want but the Armed Forces will remain steadfast in any attempt against the government.

Abadia's statement came following reported plan by the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People and the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army's Manila-Rizal Chapter to launch attacks on 30 June to disrupt the inauguration of the new president and vice president of the country which will be held in Luneta at 1430 [0630 GMT]. [end recording]

Ramos' Party, Liberal Party May Merge

HK2306023892 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] It is possible that the Liberal Party [LP] will merge with the Lakas EDSA-NUCD [Epifanio de los Santos Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats]. According to Congressman Raul Daza, the union will depend on the programs planned by the Lakas EDSA-NUCD. Daza said the LP will do its best to work harmoniously with the Lakas EDSA-NUCD in the event that the union materializes. He said that the LP will first clean up its camp before any merger can take place.

Ramos Says Marcos Corpse To Receive 'Due Honor'

HK2206125392 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Former First Lady Imelda Marcos has personally aired her willingnes to cooperate with the incoming Ramos administration. Mrs. Marcos issued the assurance in her dialogue with Ramos last night at the residence of Congressman Jose de Venecia. Mrs. Marcos allegedly asked President-Elect Ramos to give the late President Marcos due honor the moment his remains are brought back to the Philippines from Hawaii. In view of this, Ramos reportedly said that as a former head of the nation, giving appropriate honor to the remains of Marcos is a big possibility.

In related news, Ramos has also met with General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] chief of staff, and General Loven Abadia, Air Force chief. Josette Olivera reports:

[Begin Olivera recording] In the two-hour dialogue, Abadia briefed Ramos on the country's security situation and gave him his recommendations. Ramos thanked the two for briefing him on internal security and on threats by some groups against him. De Villa [as heard] said the dialogue was an update briefing about the internal security situation and the AFP's current operation Net Trap Part 2. [end recording]

Moro Leader Denies Order To Blow Up Power Lines

HK2206065092 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] Nur Misuari, Moro National Liberation Front chairman, has denied giving orders to blow up any power transmission lines.

In an interview with DZMM this morning, Misuari said the report must have been manufactured by the Southern Command to justify more violence against his group.

Meanwhile, Misuari said many of his fellow Muslims are doubting the victory of Fidel Ramos in Mindanao.

He said Ramos is not popular in his region, and it would be more believable had Miriam Santiago or Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco won in the area.

[Begin Misuari recording in Tagalog] Mr. Ramos is very unpopular because he is the enemy of Mindanao people, having been the *prosecutor* of martial law and *war of extermination* during most of the Marcos regime. There was no reason for the people to vote for him. Why did he win? Just this evening a lot of people came to our office, expressing alarm and disappointment. They are asking why Ramos won *when in fact he lost in those areas.* [end recording]

Moro Leader: Amnesty Policy 'Unlikely To Succeed'

HK2206065192 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Nur Misuari, Moro National Liberation Front chairman, stressed that the amnesty being offered by the incoming Ramos administration to both leftist and rightist rebels is unlikely to succeed. According to Misuari, his group has already achieved so much and it would not be easy for it to abandon the mission which it has started. He also said Filipino leaders like Ramos should learn from the events in Yugoslavia and the former Soviet. [as heard]

[Begin Misuari recording—in English; in progress] ...that is a lesson for the Filipino leaders like Ramos. We cannot surrender. We cannot seek amnesty. We have every right to be free, and that is what we are fighting for. We want our freedom, not slavery, not indignity. Muslims cannot surrender to an oppressive government like the Philippine Government. We cannot. We would rather surrender to [word indistinct] rather than surrender to our enemy. It's better to die than surrender to an oppressive government, especially Ramos'. [end recording]

Defense Secretary, Military Rebels on Amnesty

HK2306042092 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 23 Jun 92 p 12

[Text] Defense Secretary Renato de Villa and detained rightist rebel leaders are scheduled to meet this week to discuss the proposed amnesty program of the incoming administration.

This was disclosed yesterday by a Camp Aguinaldo source close to the detained ultra-rightist leaders.

At the same time, both Secretary de Villa and Armed Forces chief of staff Lisandro Abadia refused to confirm or deny they were already trying to lay down the groundwork for a renewed peace offering to the still-in-hiding rightist rebels leaders, specifically ex-Lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan.

When asked by newsmen about this, General Abadia, in one of very few instances, answered a crisp "no comment." Secretary de Villa, for his part, gave a smile and said "you better ask him (Gen. Abadia) to confirm whether this is true or not."

Based on an intelligence report, fugitive Col. Billy Bibit has been given a safe conduct pass to contact Mr. Honasan and his group for possible renewal of peace talks.

According to the Camp Aguinaldo source, former Brig. General Edgardo Abenina, as of yesterday, was still waiting for the final word from Sec. de Villa on the exact date and time of the said meeting. "The call is expected any time now," he further said.

The initiative, the source added, came from an "informal representative" of incoming President Ramos, who visited the detention center last week.

Gen. Abenina, who refused to divulge any information regarding the proposed one-on-one negotiation, said "we have promised not to talk about it with media to prove to them that we are sincere about the talks."

Earlier in the day, Sec. de Villa hinted that an amnesty program without any pre-conditions is possible, saying that the prospect is "still under study...it is difficult for me to commit in that direction (setting pre-conditions before initiating the amnesty program) right now, until the whole thing is really very thoroughly studied." A general and unconditional amnesty is what the rebels have been pressing for since the proposal was brought up by president-elect Ramos.

In previous interviews, Gen. Abadia has always advocated that the rebels first renounce the use of violence in achieving their objectives and recognize the Constitution as the framework of the peace negotiations, before the peace process begins.

Although still looking forward to "a fresh opportunity" to resolve the country's internal security problem, Sec. de Villa, at the same time, warned both the communist and the rightist rebels—who have yet to receive the formal amnesty offering but have already rejected the proposal—that the Government will not hesitate to continue its campaign against them. "We will have no choice but to press for a solution of the problem even without that amnesty."

Meanwhile, the military and defense leadership revealed that both Messrs. de Villa and Abadia met with president-elect Ramos last Sunday afternoon.

The meeting lasted for two hours and was also attended by the different service and area commanders.

"Well, we just gave him an update briefing that he requested for in the first place. We gave him an update briefing on the internal security situation. Where we are now. For instance, how is Lambat Bitag [Net Trap] II getting along? And (as for) the other threat groups, what are their situations right now," Sec. de Villa reported.

For his part, Gen. Abadia said "it's (the meeting) nothing fantastic. It is just a security update given by the J2 (deputy chief for intelligence).... He wanted to be sure about the current security situation."

Communist Leader Says Group Supports Progress

HK2306102292 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] The Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [CPP-NPA] has never opposed development.

This was emphasized by Comrade Hector [Hector Mabilangan] of the Banahaw Command in an exclusive interview.

Comrade Hector said development is one of the reasons for their struggle, so it is impossible for them to oppose it.

But he said the government has many projects that benefit only a small number of businessmen. One of these projects is the Calabarzon [Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon provinicial industrial development project] which he described as collusion between local and foreign investors.

[Begin Hector recording] We are not against progress for the Philippines. In fact, our struggle is aimed at progress and improvement in the life of Filipinos. But what we are opposing are projects that benefit only the rich in this region. We are studying them. [end recording]

Thailand

Anan Views Election Law, House Dissolution

BK2306070592 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] At the Government House at 0915 today, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun spoke to reporters on his meeting yesterday with political party leaders. He said he accepted the prime minister's post under certain conditions. Reading the statement to the king on his appointment, readers will realize that it is the wish of the National Assembly president to return sovereign power to the people. Under such conditions, the prime minister said he has no choice but to dissolve the House of Representatives and hold an election. He said the election will be held not too long from now and that he must ensure that it is fair and clean so that the House of Representatives will become an institution that truly represents the people.

In his discussions with political party leaders, Anan said he reached the opinion that certain regulations and rules could be amended to make the election more fair but it perhaps would not be possible to amend the Constitution or laws because it would be time consuming and complicated. It might be possible to amend the election act and the political parties act, but this must be done quickly due to this government's time limitations. Therefore, he asked the political parties to consider among themselves in two or three days. If they are unanimous in their amendment position, the government is ready to act on it before the conclusion of the parliamentary session.

Anan said he feels that because his government is not a product of the election and has nothing to gain or lose from it, it wants the election regulations to be amended to follow the politicians' wishes.

The prime minister said no one can tell when the House might be dissolved but he assures that all four Constitution amendments will not be affected because he could submit them for royal endorsement even when parliament does not exist. He said the timing of the House dissolution will have to take into account several factors which he already has in mind.

Policy Statement Criticized

BK2306021992 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Jun 92 pp A1-A2

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun's policy statement was harshly criticized by members of the House of Representatives particularly those belonging to pro-military parties, who questioned the legitimacy of his rise to power and competence in ensuring a fair election.

House Speaker Athit Urairat, who dropped a political bombshell in appointing Anan as prime minister on June 10, was also subjected to much of the onslaught throughout the 11-hour meeting which was broadcast on television and radio yesterday.

Members of the pro-military parties also took the opportunity to defend themselves for their association with former prime minister Suchinda Khraprayun, who resigned in disgrace in connection with the May 17-20 bloody crackdown against pro-democracy protesters.

Anan read out the eight-page policy statement of his interim government to the House-Senate session. [passage omitted]

Deputy Samakkhi Tham Party leader Phinit Chantarasurin said Anan's rise to power was illegitimate because it contradicted the Constitution which was successfully amended by Parliament on the very same day he was appointed prime minister.

Phinit said the prime minister's promise to dissolve the House of Representatives to pave the way for a fresh general election was tantamount to yielding to pressure from interest groups outside Parliament.

"Complying with interest groups outside Parliament. Are we going to accept the new parliamentary precedent set by this government?" the deputy party leader said.

Phinit claimed that the supposedly independent election watchdog set up by Anan before the March 22 election had failed to prevent vote-buying and other dishonest practices by politicians. He also accused PollWatch of having been biased in favour of certain political parties while trying to discredit others.

PollWatch said in a report that it had received many complaints of alleged dishonest practices by Samakkhi Tham Party along with other parties like the New Aspiration, Chat Thai and Social Action.

House Speaker Athit defended the prime minister against the criticism, saying he was responsible for the nomination and appointment of Anan. "Don't blame the prime minister. Blame it on the House speaker who had no other choice but to do what he must do," Athit said. "In spite of what I did I still regard the House of Representatives as the only institution capable of solving the country's problems."

The House speaker's statement attracted jeers and boos from several Samakkhi Tham and Chat Thai party members.

Chat Thai Secretary General Banhan Sinlapa-acha tried to defend his party's position in having not supported constitutional amendments proposed by Athit prior to the bloodshed. Banhan said it was Athit's fault in making a hasty announcement of an alleged agreement among 11 government and opposition parties to amend the Constitution without consulting his party.

The failure to get the 11 parties to commit themselves on the constitutional amendments contributed to growing public outcries and confrontations between pro-democracy protesters and the Suchinda government that culminated in the brutal crackdown.

New Aspiration Party leader Chawalit Yongchaiyut praised Anan for accepting the prime minister's post at a time of national crisis and said he wanted the prime minister to give top priority to the effort to bring about national reconciliation.

House Leaders Ask Anan To Delay Dissolution

BK2306015192 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Jun 92 pp A1-A2

[Text] Democrat Party leader Chuan Likphai said yesterday that leaders of the 11 political parties had asked Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun to delay dissolving the House of Representatives to save the ongoing probe by a house committee into the May massacre.

Chuan said the politicians made the request during a lunch meeting with Anan at Parliament yesterday.

Chuan claimed the parties wanted the House dissolution to be postponed to allow the House panel probing the May 17-20 bloodshed to complete its task. The mandate of the House committee will be terminated once the House is dissolved.

But it remained uncertain whether the politicians and the prime minister had discussed when the House should be dissolved.

While Anan and some political leaders said their meeting did not touch on the question of a House dissolution other politicians said it did.

Phisan Munlasatsathon secretary-general of the New Aspiration Party claimed Anan had asked the 11 parties to agree among themselves when the House should be dissolved.

But Adm Siri Sirirangsi, acting leader of Phalang Tham Party, said the talk did not mention when the House should be dissolved as "the matter is within the prime minister's power to decide."

Muanchon Party MP Chirayut Nawaket quoted Anan as telling the meeting that he would be in office no more than four months and would dissolve the House before July 10.

While formally telling the party leaders that he would definitely hold a general election in September, Anan indicated he was prepared to delay the House dissolution if more time was needed to amend the existing electoral laws to ensure that the election was clean and fair, according to politicians attending the meeting.

Amending the electoral laws was one of the topics Anan discussed with the leading politicians.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting Anan declined to say when he would dissolve the House.

The meeting yesterday, however, reached no conclusion as to how the electoral laws should be amended Chuan said.

The Democrat leader said the political leaders offered various opinions on the proposed amendments but they were dropped as most would require amending the Constitution.

Chuan said the politicians later settled for possible amending of the Political Parties and Electoral Acts which was more attainable under the present political circumstances.

Chuan said the prime minister then asked the party leaders to come up with a consensus among themselves and tell him within 24 hours how such amendments should be carried out.

Acting Palang Tham Party leader Adm Siri said the four opposition parties of Phalang Tham, Democrat, New Aspiration and Solidarity would first sound out their stand on the amendments before meeting with the remaining parties.

New Aspiration secretary-general Phisan said the 11 parties would meet again this morning to discuss the proposed amendments and present their resolution to Anan later.

Chat Thai Party leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun Rahong quoted Anan as saying that he would like the agreement of the parties to be "a resolution by the 11 political parties."

House Urges Anan To Punish Crackdown Leaders

BK2306020592 Bangkok THE NATION in English 23 Jun 92 pp A1-A2

[Text] The outgoing House of Representatives yesterday echoed calls for interim Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun to quickly find and punish the culprits in last month's massacre of pro-democracy demonstrators.

The political crackdown, the worst since the slaughter of student activists accused of being communists in 1976 was a major topic during yesterday's parliamentary debate on the interim government's policy.

Several MPs called on Prime Minister Anan to quickly bring to justice those responsible for the incident, saying that unless this was done, it would be hard to restore political and economic stability.

"Some important policies are missing in this policy statement," said Democrat leader Chuan Likphai. "They include an issue which has caused bad feelings among the people."

He asked Anan and the defence minister to force military leaders to be cooperative in the on-going investigation into the bloodbath.

Armed forces chiefs last week submitted reports on the May 17-20 incident to Parliament's ad hoc factfinding committee but refused to testify in person.

"To find the truth, the prime minister and defence minister must order the senior military officers to testify," Chuan said. He stressed that this sensitive issue concerned "individuals", not the entire military establishment.

Uthai Pimchaichon, secretary-general of the Solidarity Party, noted that an imminent House dissolution planned by Anan practically meant "dismissal" of politicians from Parliament.

"I hope that the day MPs are dismissed will also see orders dismissing those who ordered the killing of the people," he said.

The proposed transfer or removal of military leaders would help ensure a fair investigation, Uthai added. "When witnesses have no fear, everything will become transparent," he said.

Prayut Siripanit, deputy leader of the Social Action Party which has been known as a pro-military camp, strongly criticized Prime Minister Anan and House Speaker Athit Urairat during yesterday's debate. He described Athit's decision to nominate non-elected Anan to head an interim government as "giving a sword to an enemy who will kill us all".

But Prayut asked Anan to "do some good for the country" by punishing those responsible for the bloodshed.

Deputy Democrat leader Banyat Bantatan said that apart from punishing the culprits, the government should restructure the military to prevent the recurrence of one of the saddest political tragedies in Thai history.

"The May incident is nothing new. It's something we thought would never happen after 1973 and 1976 but it did," Banyat said.

Charun Kuwanont, a New Aspiration MP, said how Anan deals with the issue will prove his much-praised status as a highly-respected prime minister.

Before the parliamentary meeting, ex-military leaders who are now prominent politicians joined the chorus of demands for punishing the generals blamed for the killing of pro-democracy demonstrators.

New Aspiration Party leader Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Samakkhi Tham Party chief adviser Athit Kamlang-ek and Ratsadon Party leader Mana Ratthanakoset insisted that the call for the removal of top military leaders accused of ordering troops to shoot at unarmed protesters was "practical".

Chawalit and Athit are former army chiefs. Mana is an ex-assistant army commander in chief.

The three said the proposal can be implemented by the interim government of Prime Minister Anan. "The prime minister has never said he is afraid to do so. He just has not done it yet," said Athit.

He added that if Anan failed to sack the military leaders, his appointment as interim prime minister would be useless.

"The prime minister has the authority to do it. With all the powers he has now, his appointment will be worth nothing if he doesn't do it," Athit said.

Pro-democracy groups are demanding that at least three armed forces leaders—Supreme Commander Kaset Rotchananin, Army Commander in Chief Itsaraphong Nunphakdi and First Army Region Commander Chainarong Nunphakdi—be relieved of their duties and brought to trial for their roles during last month's political turbulence.

Anan has vowed to pursue "till the end" the investigation into the Ratchadamnoen Avenue massacre, in which scores died according to the official death toll which is disputed by independent sources as unrealistically low. But critics say the pledge is still vague and note that it has not been included in the government's policy statement.

Chawalit said he believed a military reshuffle that would neutralize the accused generals was imminent.

"I believe a restructure will take place very soon and will be influenced by the May tragedy," he said. "The prime minister can transfer anybody, even the army chief. Nobody is above the law."

Mana said the appointment of Banchop Bunnak, former chief of staff of the Supreme Command and the army, as defence minister more or less helped guarantee the interim government's determination to find and punish the culprits.

"A reshuffle doesn't need to take place during the annual promotion season. It can be done now," said Mana.

Banchop had said he would wait until the current investigation is completed before deciding what to do. He has not ruled out the possibility of removing senior military officers found responsible for the bloodshed.

Meanwhile, a senior army officer yesterday denied a report that Gen Itsaraphong is adamant to stay on as army commander in chief.

"The report was part of attempts to cause a rift in the military," said Lt Gen Yutthana Khamdi, deputy army chief of staff.

The report in a Thai-language daily quoted Itsaraphong as telling senior officers in Prachin Buri last week that he would "stay on for a while" in the top army post.

"The army commander in chief never said anything like that to junior or senior soldiers," Yutthana said.

PollWatch Submits Suggestions for Fair Elections

BK2106073492 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Jun 92 p A1

[Text] A proposal by the election watchdog for an independent body to control the entire polling process, instead of the Interior Ministry, to ensure a clean and fair election is unlikely to happen during the term of the interim government because of time constraints.

Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Pol Gen [Police General] Phao Sarasin said yesterday the government does not have the time to amend the electoral law despite glaring loopholes in the legislation.

His comment indicates the government would not be able to adopt the PollWatch proposal for the establishment of an independent body to take responsibility for general elections away from the Interior Ministry.

To legalize the proposed body, an amendment to the Electoral Code would be needed.

PollWatch, headed by Deputy Prime Minister Kasem Suwanakun, on Friday submitted to Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun a package of sweeping structural and procedural changes to make the election as clean and fair as possible. The premier passed the proposals to the interior minister for consideration.

Among the proposals are that:

—the electoral law be amended to allow a one-man-constituency system instead of voting for a team.

—the minimum number of each party's candidates be reduced from 120 to 50.

—the age of eligible voters be lowered from 20 to 18.

The election watchdog proposed that the body be legally formed under legislation and that it be outside the bureaucracy, but with state funding.

Phao also said that in addition to time constraints, the government believed that amending the electoral law should be the duty of MPs.

"I believe the MPs know where the legal loopholes are and the initiative should be left to them," he said.

PollWatch has proposed that Prime Minister Anan form a separate committee, independent of the Interior Ministry, to handle all processes of a general election.

The watchdog said the committee should be set up to organize elections, prepare lists of eligible voters, designate election constituencies, register candidates for the polls and investigate any irregularities in the elections.

The panel should also be allowed by law to file complaints of poll irregularities to the courts, it said.

PollWatch also proposed that the vote count be conducted at district offices to prevent vote buyers from checking if they have succeeded in their bribing attempts. It would also prevent possible meddling with the votes when ballot boxes are moved to district offices.

In past elections, votes were counted at each polling station before the results were sent to district offices.

One proposal is that anyone receiving kickbacks from election candidates should be put on probation, and a reward should be offered for information leading to the arrest of vote buyers.

PollWatch said it believed the better an election is organized, the less chance there is for vote buying.

The watchdog group also suggested that the proposed election-control committee check the number of people living in each house to see if the figure corresponds with those specified in the household registration.

It said a time limit should be set for vote counting to prevent irregularities.

PollWatch further suggested that authorities provide public transport for voters to and from polling stations on the election day.

Among other proposals is that a candidate should deposit Bt [Baht] 50,000 with the authorities, and if he or she wins less than 10 per cent of the total vote in a specific constituency, the money should be forfeited.

Referring to the qualifications of candidates, PollWatch suggested that those intending to stand in an election should have their names on household registrations in the provinces where they will run for at least a year.

Anuwat Elected Head of Samakkhi Tham Party

BK2006041792 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Jun 92 p 1

[Excerpt] Buri Ram MP Anuwat Watthanaphongsiri was yesterday elected new secretary-general of the Samakkhi Tham Party, replacing Sqn Ldr [Squadron Leader] Thiti Nakhonthap who resigned.

Phrae MP Narong Wongwan, who remains party leader, assured party members he would lead the party to fight in the next general election.

He believes the STP will be able to retain its political bases in the North and Northeast.

Mr Narong chaired yesterday's party meeting at the Central Plaza Hotel to elect new executive committee members.

After the meeting, he said in the current political situation he would not give up politics but would instead help strengthen the party.

"I will run in the next election as the party leader," said Mr Narong adding that the STP's stronghold in the North would remain intact while its base in the Northeast would be expanded as the new secretary-general is a veteran MP from the region.

"We believe the party will be stronger in the Northeast. As a veteran politician, he (Mr Anuwat) would work side by side with northeastern candidates," Mr Narong said. [passage omitted]

Prominent Businessmen To Form Political Group

BK1906025192 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Jun 92 p 6

[Text] Having realised how badly politicians and parties can ruin the country as witnessed from the May 17-20 bloodshed, the country's leading businessmen have grouped together to support good politicians or field their own men in the upcoming election.

One of the ideas being considered is to set up a political foundation to finance businessmen-turned-politicians and MPs.

The businessmen, known as shareholders of the Business Management Services (BMS) company, met last night at a local hotel reportedly to discuss their political plans.

The foundation would also set up an institute to study how to promote democracy, GF [expansion unknown] Group president Narongchai Akarasani, a BMS leader, told reporters yesterday.

The foundation would seek the cooperation of political parties which share the ideas of the businessmen, he said.

The foundation will ask the government to give its donors an income tax exemption.

The GF executive said he would not run for MP unless he was sure he could play a decisive role in Parliament.

Mr Narongchai said businessmen had pledged financial support if he runs in the next general election but he admitted he was afraid to be defeated.

He would offer financial backing for other businessmen to run for MP, he said, though he eventually may not run himself.

Bangkok Bank executive chairman Amnuai Wirawan cautioned that such a foundation might be a "double-edged sword" because the businessmen involved might be accused of improperly taking sides with politicians.

Mr Amnuai said political-minded business executives should outline the foundation's role more clearly so they would not be regarded as a pivot for any politicians or parties.

The leading banker said Thailand should have a law to make supporters of politicians or political parties declare themselves publicly.

Mr Amnuai denied criticism that he secretly belongs to New Aspiration Party led by Chawalit Yongchaiyut and uses his banking business to favour certain politicians.

Khunying Chodchoi Sophonpanich, who is best known for her "Magic Eyes" anti-garbage campaign, said yesterday BMS has agreed to finance a new campaign to persuade voters not to accept money and to pick better MPs.

The campaign will include TV advertisements and student volunteers to persuade voters to choose MPs who were not part of the five-party coalition government and who do not buy votes, she said.

She said a number of students want to return to their villages to take part in the campaign, which may use stickers that say, "This house does not sell votes."

Khunying Chodchoi said she hoped to organise television programmes that would discuss issues of interest to villagers. Her objective is to change the way voters make their choices.

The idea of businessmen financing politicians is not unanimously accepted in the business community. Most who were asked to comment yesterday said they had no objection to individuals or companies financing candidates or parties, but they said trade and industry associations should be non-partisan even if they lobby on policy.

Rice Exporters Association's deputy secretary Wichai Sriprasoet said businessmen should finance political parties in the next general election.

The fund given to parties should be used to promote democracy and political activities but not for favours.

Businessmen usually secretly finance politicians in an attempt to gain unfair advantages, he said, adding that this had damaged the economy.

Mr Wichai said the Joint Public-Private Sector Consultative Committee could play a role in restoring the country's economy.

The administration of Gen Prem Tinsulanon could be seen as a good model for economic prosperity.

Board of Trade Secretary General Pramon Suthiwong said the political fund could not be contributed by businesses as the law prohibits this, but individually it was allowed.

He said he did not give the fund to any political party or politician but his role in trade associations was seen as a way to help contribute to political activities.

Commander Faulted for Business 'Irregularities'

BK2106050892 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jun 92 p 4

[From the "Inprint" column]

[Text] Supreme Commander ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Kaset Rotchananin is being attacked not only for his role in the suppression of pro-democracy demonstrators but also for alleged irregularities in Thai Airways International Co of which he is chairman.

Two letters sent to Premier Anan and Privy Counsellor Prem Tinsulanon by an anonymous Thai Airways staff claims five cases of corruption involving ACM Kaset.

The five cases are the purchase of land for a crew training centre, the purchase of Rolls Royce jet engines, the sale of six Shorts aircraft to Bangkok Airways Co, the rental of Canadian Challenger C-601 VIP aircraft without forward notice, and the offering of Cambodia air routes to Bangkok Airways.

In the past, top brass with political power have used their influence to assist businessmen and politicians in exchange for a share of the profit. If their share is not sufficient they can draw from the military's secret fund.

However, the top brass adopted a new tactic after the 1991 coup by using their financial base to establish one new political party and seizing another old party.

The fund for political activities was said to be about one billion baht.

Vietnam

Deputy Minister on Cambodia, Japan's Troop Bill

BK2206152592 Hanoi VNA in English 1443 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 22—"The Vietnamese people wish the Cambodian people to have peace and stability to rebuild Cambodia into a prosperous country, and want to cooperate with the latter in developing their country on the principle of peace and mutual benefits," Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan told VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY before leaving here for the Tokyo international conference on Cambodian reconstruction.

On this occasion, he added, the Vietnamese delegation will exchange views with Japan on the two countries' bilateral cooperation.

Asked by VNA about the Japanese lower house's recent approval of the peace-keeping operations bill to allow Tokyo to send soldiers overseas, Vu Khoan said: "It is up to Japan to send or not to send its troops abroad to join in peace-keeping operations. However, it should be noted that this worries nations in the region and Vietnam shares that worry".

Scientists Conduct Research at Spratly Islands

BK2106104792 Hanoi VNA in English 1222 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 20—A group of scientists recently conducted a number of scientific researches at the Truong Sa archipelago also known as Spratly Islands.

At the islands of Nam Yet, Sinh Ton, Song Tu Tay and Truong Sa, they studied a number of autochthonous plants and vegetables, the question of environment hygiene, drinking water and other living conditions of the soldiers there.

Electoral Council Holds News Conference

BK2206124992 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] This afternoon, 22 June, at the Office of the National Assembly and the Council of State, the Central Electoral Council organized a news conference to make public the list of 602 candidates standing for the election of deputies to the Ninth National Assembly. Comrade Nguyen Viet Dung, secretary general of the National Assembly and the Council of State and member of the Central Council for the Election of Deputies to the Ninth National Assembly, presided over the news conference. A large number of journalists representing the press at the central level and in Hanoi were present.

In introducing the list of 602 candidates standing for the election of deputies to the Ninth National Assembly, Comrade Nguyen Viet Dung pointed out: The candidates have all gone through three rounds of consultations to select nominated and independent candidates to form the official list of candidates standing for the election of deputies to the Ninth National Assembly in the various localities. The consultations have all been organized in a democratic spirit and according to set procedures as stipulated by law. Those whose names appear on the lists of candidates are all trusted by the conferences of voters in the localities where they work and live. Their quality and competence meet the selection criteria defined under Article 3 of the law on the election of National Assembly deputies.

Of the total number of 602 candidates to be distributed to 158 electoral units for voters to select 395 of them to the ninth National Assembly, 132 are women, 100 are ethnic minority people, 337 have finished college or higher education, and 99 are deputies to the Eighth National Assembly.

Comrade Nguyen Viet Dung also disclosed that during those three rounds of consultations in the provinces and cities under the direct management of the central echelon, some 40 people were independent candidates and after those consultations, only two of them still met the criteria and were recommended by the third round of consultations in the provinces of Ha Tinh and Quang Ngai to stand for the election of deputies to the Ninth National Assembly.

Speaking at the news conference, Comrade Nguyen Viet Dung, secretary general of the Council of State, commended and thanked the mass media for their timely coverage of the preparations for the election of deputies to the Ninth National Assembly. He also called on the mass media to continue propagandizing and clarifying issues to make people in the various localities understand what they should do regarding the election of deputies to the Ninth National Assembly, as well as have the necessary knowledge of the law on the election of National Assembly deputies, thus motivating everyone to enthusiastically participate in the election of deputies to the Ninth National Assembly scheduled for 19 July.

Vice Premier Affirms Commitment to Environment

BK2306071892 Hanoi VNA in English 0625 GMT 23 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 23—The Government of Vietnam, through its participation in the Earth Summit has shown its serious attitude on the protection of the environment, said Vice Premier Nguyen Khanh in Hanoi on Monday.

Mr. Nguyen Khanh, who had just returned from the Rio de Janeiro conference, told the press here June 22 that Vietnam would contribute practically to global efforts in settling effectively the relationship between environment and development.

Need for Agricultural Investment Cited

BK2206153192 Hanoi VNA in English 1436 GMT 22 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 22—At present, nearly 52 percent of farmer households need investment capital, of whom more than half are pooor farmers who want to borrow capital to maintain production, while the rest are well-to-do people who need more investments to develop a large-scale commodity production.

VIETNAM NEWS today quotes a latest survey as saying that 81 percent of all households in Vietnam are farmers, and they produce more than 95 percent of total agricultural output value.

Until recently, loans allocated to the agriculture sector were disappointingly low and diminishing. It was 10 percent of gross domestic product [GDP] in 1976-1980, 6.16 percent in 1986, and 4.6 percent in 1990. It is estimated that to gain a 3-percent increase in GDP in an agricultural country like Vietnam, investments in agriculture must be raised to 20-25 percent GDP.

Before 1990, loans from agricultural banks were mainly allocated to cooperatives and state-owned enterprises. But things have changed since, and within the first few months of implementing a new policy on granting loans to private farmers, agricultural banks lent 405 billion dong to 558,680 farmer households and have so far retrieved 180 billion dong. Debt payment is particularly good in large scale production areas. In the Mekong River delta province of An Giang for instance, 15,000 farmer households paid 3 billion dong plus interest they had borrowed for the summer-autumn rice crop of 1991. The same was true of farmers in Cuu Long Province, who had borrowed 12 billion dong.

A 1990 survey indicated that almost 30 percent of farmer households had to borrow at high-interest rates, mostly from private lenders.

Agricultural banks, for their parts, have difficulties of their own because of limited capital. They can meet only about half of the farmers' demand for loans.

To improve the situation, it is necessary to set up joint partnership funds for agricultural production with a view to forming a financial market in rural areas. For its part, the state should work out a preferential treatment policy for supply of raw material, and related services. Besides, other sources of funding can also be mobilised, including that of foreign organisations and individuals. Available statistics in Ho Chi Minh City showed that by mid-May this year, hundreds of farmer households in the city had borrowed a total of 400 million dong from the European Community's aid programmes for production development.

More Public Holdings in State Enterprises Allowed

BK1906050892 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Premier Vo Van Kiet has allowed more state-owned enterprises to join the initial seven short-listed for experimental equitisation. The decision which was made on June 8 provides that each province, city, and ministry may choose one or two eligible units for public holdings in addition to the seven enterprises already meant for this purpose. Shares will be sold to Vietnamese citizens and organizations with priority to people actually employed by the enterprises concerned.

Deputy Culture Minister on Building Culture

BK2106015892 Hanoi VNA in English 1429 GMT 20 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 20—Deputy Culture Minister Dr. Dinh Quang made known at a press conference here yesterday Vietnam's six programmes of action to respond to the World Decade for Cultural Development (1988-1997) initiated by the United Nations and executed by UNESCO.

Prof. Dr. Dinh Quang, deputy minister of culture, information and sports and vice president of the Vietnam National Committee for the World Decade for Cultural Development, said these programmes are aimed at making society in general and policymakers in particular aware of the role of culture in development, studying the interactions of culture and social development so as to make proposals for new policies of development in the future, looking into the present cultural situation to find out what cultural activities should be maintained and developed in conformity with national tradition and modern life, raising the people's cultural life, and broadening cultural exchanges. Also according to Mr. Din Quang, in July the committee, in coordination with the Vietnam UNESCO Committee and the party Central Committee's Commission for Ideology and Culture, will meet with representatives of all branches and ministries to discuss how to materialise these programmes.

Customs Official Arrested for Smuggling Activity

BK1806113492 Hong Kong AFP in English 0430 GMT 18 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi, June 18 (AFP)—The director of customs in Ho Chi Minh City has been arrested in connection with Vietnam's biggest smuggling incident ever, the HANOI MOI newspaper said Thursday.

Phan Anh Tuan was arrested in early May, 16 months after more than 1.5 million dollars' worth of gold and foreign exchange were found hidden in an airliner in Vietnam's economic capital, it said.

Some 10 other customs and police officers have also been arrested, the daily said, citing a youth newspaper in the city that used to be called Saigon.

Smuggling and corruption remain rampant in Vietnam despite a two-year campaign to eliminate the vices.

Australia

Evans, Qian View APEC, Burma Arms Embargo

BK1906100792 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0800 GMT 19 Jun 92

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] The 15 members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Group, APEC, have agreed to set up a permanent secretariat. A meeting of officials in South Korea has agreed in principle of the need for a permanent headquarters possibly based in Bangkok or Singapore.

APEC, created at a meeting in Canberra in 1989, groups the ASEAN states, North America, Japan, Korea, Australia, New Zealand, and so- called three Chinas. As Graeme Dobell reports, the future direction of APEC was one of the topics covered with China's foreign minister, Qian Qichen, during his round of discussions in Canberra.

[Begin recording] [Dobell] Mr. Qian completed his Canberra talks with a courtesy call on Prime Minster Paul Keating, further symbolizing that the diplomatic traumas following the Beijing massacre three years ago is a thing of the past.

Australia still has a ban on defense contacts with China, but that was not even raised in the detailed discussions with Foreign Minister Gareth Evans. Far more attention was given to the economic aspects of the relationship, as Mr. Qian noted during his Canberra press conference.

[Qian, in Mandarin, with superimposed English translation] There is a strong, high degree of a mutual (?commonality) in economic relations between China and Australia, but there are many areas where we can count cooperation.

[Dobell] The Chinese foreign minister described Australia's call for a summit meeting of APEC leaders as significant, but he restated China's view that the membership of APEC by the so-called three Chinas representing different economies presented problems for the heads of government meeting.

Mr. Qian said China's position was that Taiwan and Hong Kong could not be represented at a summit because they were not sovereign states. Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said Australia was well aware of China's concerns and had explored mechanisms which could achieve a heads of goverment meeting.

Australia's line as put by Prime Minister Keating is that APEC needs regular involvement by its leaders if it were to achieve its full potential. It will be one of the issues to be discussed at the next APEC ministerial meeting in Bangkok in September. Following this week's agreement between officials, the ministers are due to approve a creation of a permanent APEC headquarters with a reported budget of about U.S. $1 million.

Senator Evans said the APEC Secretariat will be created on a small scale.

[Evans] (?People) are very concerned to ensure that (?move). We don't run before we can walk and that the institutional dimensions (?should) stay within reasonable bounds (?with some) sensitivity of course, but the whole APEC concept in some parts of Asia-Pacific region and it is a matter of quietly evolving. Much of the work will be done outside the secretariat through consultancies and through governments making inputs into working bodies.

[Dobell] Australia's growing economic relationship with Taiwan has caused, what Sen. Evans described as, difficulties in the relationship with Beijing in the last year or so. The foreign minister said China had raised the increasing Australian contact with Taiwan, but he had restated that such links would be unofficial, remaining in the framework of Australia's one-China policy.

[Evans] I did make the point that Taiwan was now Australia's eighth largest trading partner. Total trade in 1991 amounted to some $4.2 billion compared with PRC, $3.25 billion, and Hong Kong, under $3 billion, and in that kind of context, it had to be anticipated that there would be ever increasing contacts between Australia and the economy of Taiwan.

[Dobell] Sen. Evans said that in discussions about Burma, he had expressed Australia's concern that recent changes by the military regime were no more than a cosmetic response to international pressure. He had pressed China to impose a voluntary arms embargo on the Burmese Government. Australia's foreign minister said Mr. Qian had restated China's policy of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries.

[Evans] My own judgment, for what it is worth, based on a number of conversations now with my colleague over a period of time, is that there is no great affection in Beijing for the present regime or its behavior and they are becoming increasingly conscious of that and, I hope, communicating that view to the Burmese.

[Dobell] China's foreign minister said the situation in Burma was indeed causing problems in the region, but he went on:

[Qian, in Mandarin, with superimposed English translation] We believe (?as) for the internal affairs of Myanmar [Burma], it will be difficult for other countries to seek a solution through pressure. China does not have this capability. China hopes to maintain good-neighborly relations with Burma because we share a common border. [end recording]